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- A. No. Of course, if I did, I'd possibly go there and live. At the same time, I am not antagonistic. I have never been antagonistic until if they were to invade America, I'd be the first to take up arms. I certainly wouldn't take up arms if I see there is a wanton thing creating any helpless situation.
- Q. Would you take up arms to repel—
- A. Yes, to repel any invader that came to the United States. Another thing, they don't like anybody that speaks frankly, the press. I haven't any descent public relationship in this country. I despise the press, and they have always lied about me. They have tried to build me up as a monster, all this sort of thing. I have lived a very quiet, normal life. I am not an association man at all, but during the war I felt very strongly against the Nazi business and up to the time I was completely against war, because I think it was an outrage, they made a deal with HITLER. When they came to the war, I flung my luck with the whole Allied movement for the one purpose of defeating the Nazis and the Fascists. Because I made a picture, I felt very strongly about it. I felt they were Communist and aboriginal, but all this racial business—I am not a Jew—nevertheless the mere picking on a minority people incenses me more than the ideology, more than the work movement, or anything else—just that they were crazy; they were mad men.
- Q. Were you a member of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship?
- A. I think, yes, maybe, yes.
- Q. How long were you a member of that organization?
- A. That I don't know. I don't even know when it happened. It was one of those things that perhaps went on during the war in which they said there is a great deal of antagonism and the fifth column is trying to divide the Allied cause and so forth, keep peace and make friends.
- Q. The Daily Worker of September 29, 1943 shows Mr. CHAPLIN to be one of the sponsors of the Tenth Anniversary of the United States Friendship Congress.
- A. Frankly, I don't know. I have no recollection. It is possible.

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- Q. Now, have you ever made any contributions to the American-Soviet Friendship organization?
- A. I don't think so... very little.
- Q. It is alleged that you made a contribution of \$250 to that organization—
- A. Maybe.
- Q. (cont'd) — on November 16, 1943.
- A. Maybe.
- Q. It is possible that you made such contribution?
- A. Oh, yes.
- Q. Now, on November 21, 1944, a photograph of you appeared in the Daily Worker, in connection with an article pointing out that you along with other movie people had sent a telegram sending greetings to the American-Soviet Friendship rally at Madison Square Garden.
- A. That's possible. I don't know. Mind you, I can't—these things don't stand out as important to me. I get piles of mail. Possibly they say, all these things are promoted by suggestion, and say will you with others, so and so, enlist your good will and our friendship of Soviet Russia. The friendship of Soviet Russia, I am all for it. I am all for trade pacts and everything else, so we can go ahead without war.
- Q. Did you furnish the Daily Worker the picture from which the photograph of yourself appearing in that publication was made?
- A. No.
- Q. You don't know from what source they secured your picture for the paper?
- A. I have never given any pictures or photographs to any paper or periodical. No. I suppose they get those things up themselves.

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Q. About how many times have you spoken for the Russian War Relief, Mr. CHAPLIN?

A. About four to five times.

Q. Are you acquainted with EARL BROWDER?

A. No, don't know him.

Q. Mr. CHAPLIN, were you honorary chairman of a cultural meeting held at Carnegie Hall, New York City, October 16, 1942?

A. I spoke there, yes.

Q. You were the honorary chairman, then, of this meeting?

A. I don't remember. I know that they requested and wanted to know if I would speak on that occasion. I think ORSON WELLES was the chairman. I wasn't the chairman at all, and I was to speak.

Q. Now, will you tell us something about that meeting Mr. CHAPLIN? By whom was it sponsored, first of all?

A. A lot of actors, lot of writers.

Q. Were you united under any group or organization?

A. I don't think so. That was another, a request, and I think it came from a friend of mine. The request came from a friend of mine.

Q. And now, during that address—or rather at the commencement of the address, did you preface your remarks by saying: 'Dear Comrades. Yes, I mean Comrades.'?

A. Yes.

Q. And, just what did you mean to imply with the salutation?

A. I mean to imply—there were obviously some Russians in the audience and as we were all together in the Allied cause and fighting for democracy and that they were our comrades and I was very proud to be able to refer to them as comrades. We were all in one cause.

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- Q. Did it have any significance that you were and considered yourself a follower of the Communist line?
- A. No.
- Q. Or, a member of the Communist Party?
- A. It had a little wit. It got a big laugh, and there was at that time, pervading a sort of feeling that the Russians were very strange bedfellows. By way of clarifying the air and getting a get-together, friendly response, and so forth; I am naturally liberal.
- Q. It is further reported that you continued: 'I am not a citizen and I don't need American citizenship papers. Citizenship papers don't mean anything. I am a patriot of humanity. I am a citizen of the world.'
- A. The first part is not correct.
- Q. You mean you did not make the statement 'I am not a citizen and I don't need American citizenship papers'?
- A. I did not make that statement.
- Q. As a matter of fact, Mr. CHAPLIN, you are not a citizen of the United States, are you?
- A. I am not.
- Q. Have you ever applied for citizenship in this country?
- A. I have never applied; from the time I was nineteen I have always had a sense of internationalism and I feel that it is coming closer every day, for the United Nations and for One World as Mr.—what's his name that died...
- Q. Is that the reason you have never applied for citizenship in the United States?
- A. Yes. I consider myself as much a citizen of America as anybody else and my great love has always been here in this country. I have been here thirty, thirty-five years. My children and

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everybody is as much a part of my—at the same time I don't feel I am allied to any one particular country. I feel I am a citizen of the world. I feel that when the day comes and we have the barriers down and so forth so the people come and go all around the world and be a part of any country, and I have always felt that about citizenship.

Q. How long have you entertained +      , Mr. CHAPLIN?

A. I have had it quite a long time.

Q. And, that is the reason you have never applied for naturalization in the United States?

A. Yes.

Q. At the present time you are a citizen of Great Britain, are you?

A. At the present I am whatever...British subject. I was born there.

Q. Have you been issued a British passport in order to make this trip?

A. Yes. It is all in order. I said...let me see...I never said that citizenship doesn't mean anything...or American citizenship. I never said anything derogatory of America in my life. Only, at that time, you see, the newspapers were making this big issue about citizenship and so forth, and of my talking about, saying I got all my money from the United States and so forth, why doesn't he become, and there is so much humbug attached to it, that, naturally, I was a little bit sore.

Q. What do you mean, 'humbug attached to it'?

A. Because it isn't true what the press said. Seventy-five per cent of my revenue comes from Europe, you see, and this country enjoys one hundred per cent of its taxation. My last picture which they don't release here, the whole of the income comes from abroad. It comes into this country and the United States gets the full taxation on that. The newspapers say he is just using...I could just as well make a picture in England, have it produced there, and take my taxes in England. When they put it on that basis, I answer them back on that basis.

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- Q. Referring to this speech, October 16, 1942, it is further alleged that you went on to say: 'And, then, there is all of the nonsensical talk about Communism when one talks of the second front, but thank God that Communism is no longer the bugaboo it used to be. Who are those Communists? Thank God we are beginning, and the American people are beginning to understand them. The Communists are ordinary people like ourselves. They say Communists are Godless. What nonsense! A people who fight and die like the Russians approximately 1942.' And, then, you concluded your speech by paying a tribute to the three million heroic dead of saddened Russia who died while we were getting ready. Any comment regarding this statement?
- A. No, that more or less is true. I feel that way, as I say. During the war, my comment is that I felt there were many forces in this country trying to disunite the Allied cause.
- Q. I take it from what you said today and what I have read of you that you are of the opinion that the Communist way of life and American way of life are compatible.
- A. Frankly, I don't know anything about the Communist way of life. I must say that, but I must say this, I don't see why we can't have peace with Russia. Their way of life—I am not interested in their ideology, I assure you. I assure you. I don't know whether you believe me or not, but I am not. I am interested to the point where—they say they want peace, and I don't see why we can't have peace here. I don't see why we can't have trade relationship and ameliorate matters and so forth and avoid a world war.
- Q. You strongly urged a second front in 1942. Is that correct?
- A. That is correct.
- Q. What prompted you to make public appearances urging another front at that time?
- A. Well, because there was...well, because I had heard there was several, couple of million soldiers in Ireland and something and all, everything prepared, and some of the papers said we were started, and it was a controversial subject at the time and my analysis and my thoughts on the matter were that we should have

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started a second front and get the thing over as quickly as possible. CHURCHILL had another idea of soft underbelly which didn't prove to be so soft. I think we could have saved hundreds of thousands of American lives by having it earlier. That is my personal opinion. They would have gone on that bulge; that would have been more or less the end of it.

- Q. In 1942, did you make a speech entitled 'Democracy Will Never Die' which was transmitted to a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And, by whom was this mass meeting in Madison Square Garden called?
- A. I think it was sponsored by the A.F. of L. or something.
- Q. As a matter of fact, it was sponsored by the Communist Party, wasn't it?
- A. No. I am sure. No, certainly wasn't. It was either the C.I.O. organization...that was the request in which they said something...
- Q. Who contacted you with reference to delivering the speech to the meeting?
- A. I know it was something by the C.I.O., some member of the C.I.O. organization and I forget...that is all very vague to me. I know it was not a Communist thing.
- Q. How do you know it wasn't a Communist-sponsored meeting?
- A. Because it was—I definitely know it was the C.I.O., something to do with the C.I.O.
- Q. Were you ever one of the Board of Directors of an organization known as People's Radio Foundation?
- A. No.

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- Q. You never were a member of the Board of Directors of that organization?
- A. No.
- Q. Were you ever a member of such organization?
- A. No.
- Q. Did you ever make any financial contribution to the People's Radio Foundation?
- A. No. I don't, I don't think so. I could always be certain—no. You see, I get, you know, like all people in public life, we get lots of these letters. There are piles a day of this sort of thing and I don't pay much attention to any of them."

Regarding the People's Radio Foundation, Informant [redacted] advised that CHARLES CHAPLIN was one of the members of the Board of Directors (pro-tem) of the People's Radio Foundation. (U) b7D

- Q. "What is your attitude toward the International Workers of the World, Mr. CHAPLIN?
- A. That is the old I.W.W.?
- Q. Correct.
- A. I don't know anything about it, frankly.
- Q. Did you ever indicate in any way that you were sympathetic to this organization?
- A. I don't think so. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Did you attend a dinner at Cicero's Restaurant in Hollywood on November 10, 1941 given by a committee or sponsored under the auspices of the American Committee to Save Refugees, the Exile Writers Committee, and the United States American-Spanish Aid Committee?
- A. No, I am sure. I attend very, very few dinners of any kind.

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- Q. Did you make any financial contribution to a magazine entitled 'Salute'?
- A. No.
- Q. Which is described as a Communist intellectual magazine.
- A. No.
- Q. You made no financial contribution in any way to this magazine?
- A. That is correct. I am sure.
- Q. Were you given an award by the 'New Masters' at a banquet held at the Commodore at New York City, January 22, 1945?
- A. I really don't remember.
- Q. Mr. CHAPLIN, do you care to make any further statement in connection with your political views or affiliations?
- A. I have no direct affiliations in the sense or am I conscious that they are affiliations for any political objectives, especially toward Communism. I have no affiliations of that nature. My—as I say—I am a liberal man, and right now, I feel very strongly about WALLACE. I feel that WALLACE is a very fine forthright man and I think he is a very good supporter of democracy and for the preservation of the American way of life and for that reason and for that reason only am I interested in WALLACE. As I say, all my, all my sudden political—oh, the political rumors about me all emanate more or less since the war on this idea of Communist. As I say, I don't deny the fact that I spoke and eulogized and extolled Russia, because I felt it was necessary to do so, because I personally believe and honestly believed they were doing a splendid job and I believe if it hadn't of been for Russia we might have had these Nazis over here and I firmly believe that and I don't see any reason for any antagonism now against Russia.
- Q. From press reports, Mr. CHAPLIN—
- A. There are a lot of press reports. Ninety-eight per cent of these, you know, they had me writing derogatory articles about Hollywood. I have never written to a foreign newspaper as far as these people are concerned.

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Q. Have you ever contributed anything to any foreign publication of any kind any material of any kind?

A. I think there was a Swedish article.

Q. What was the name of the publication?

A. I know it was a Swedish thing.

Q. Was that recently?

A. About a couple of years ago.

Q. And, what publication did your article appear in?

A. That I don't know. It was a man doing stories about Hollywood and so forth. It was more or less in connection with my work and business.

Q. According to press reports, you more or less have followed the Communist Line for a number of years. What have you to say in that regard?

A. That is such a generality to say Communist Line and I don't think, and I think if you will just be specific in those things. From what you put here, the Communist Line, I have followed because of the eventual success of our fight against Germany and against HITLER. Prior to that, I have not followed Communist lines. I have been Democratic. Naturally, I am progressive and I am progressive in the sense that I am not a Socialist, but I believe in proper people's unionism and I believe it is a good thing. I believe in all that sort of thing that will alleviate... raise the standard of living of the American people and that is all; I'd like to avoid another depression.

Q. Anything further you would like to say, Mr. CHAPLIN?

A. I don't know if I have answered your party line and if you will tell me exactly what the party line prior to the war--

Q. Well, of course, the party line is the line of policy followed--

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- A. I have never been...belonged to any organization prior to the war. In the first place the war...I was out to help the Allied effort. That is my answer. Prior to that, I completely deny that I followed any party line. I say I didn't follow any party line during the war. I followed the Allied lines. That is how I would define it.
- Q. Have you in any way done anything to promote the interest of the Communist Party in the United States, either financial or otherwise?
- A. The Communist Party of the United States? No, not to my knowledge.
- Q. Is there anything further you would like to say, Mr. CHAPLIN, before this interview is closed?
- A. Yes. By that, I wish you would be more specific, because I expressed...the mere fact that I say I would want to see peace with Russia and the United States, whether that furthers the American-Communist line, I don't know. Well, if it does, it is inadvertent. That is what I would say. But, that isn't intentional. That isn't my object. I want to get on record and say I am not interested in any subversive movement to overthrow the American Government or any government, and I am not a politically active person. I belong to no...I have no affiliations other than those that are outside of the political organization, like the friendship of Russia thing, you see. My only object is to preserve democracy as we have it. I think there are certain abuses to it, like everything else. I think there has been a great deal of witch burning. I don't think that is democratic. I know it seems very strange and rather bewilders me why I should be considered a Communist. I have been here thirty-five years and my primary interests is in my work and it has never been an anti-anything. It has never been anti...maybe a critical comment, but it has always been for the good of the country. I don't like war and I don't like revolution. I don't like anything overthrown. If the status quo of anything is all right let it go. In my sense of being a liberal, I just want to see things function in harmony. I want to see everybody pretty well, happy, and satisfied."

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It is noted that Inspector EDGAR of Immigration and Naturalization Service, Los Angeles, advised this statement had never been signed by CHAPLIN. However, it will be noted that the above statements were made by CHAPLIN at a time when he was under oath.

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ADMINISTRATIVE

In referenced report of the writer a lead was set out for the New York Office to interview HOWARD RUSHMORE regarding CHARLES CHAPLIN. (U)

By teletype dated October 6, 1948 the Bureau advised that in view of the possible publicity and known unreliability of HOWARD RUSHMORE it is believed inadvisable at this time to interview him. (U)

Reference is made to information contained in this report attributed to Informant  (U)

63  
By letter the Omaha Office will be requested to interview GARDNER COWLES, Publisher of the Des Moines Register, regarding information he might have concerning the allegations by ROBERT ARDEN that someone in WENDELL WILKIE'S party carried a letter from a Soviet agent in Russia to CHARLES CHAPLIN. Nothing is known concerning the political beliefs of GARDNER COWLES and it will be left to the discretion of the Omaha Office whether such an interview should be conducted. This lead will be set out by letter inasmuch as it concerns merely one specific part of this investigation and will obviate the necessity of sending copies of reports to Omaha. (U)

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LEADS

THE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE

*b1* [REDACTED] (C)

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, will develop background information on EDWARD C. CHANEY, formerly CHARLES CHAPLIN'S butler, for the purpose of deciding whether or not it would be advisable to interview CHANEY concerning CHAPLIN'S activities in connection with the Communist Party and Soviet espionage activities. (U)

*b7D* Will, through [REDACTED] examine old copies of the People's Daily World for the purpose of determining other activities of a Communist nature engaged in by CHAPLIN. (U)

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 5, 1949

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JIK/ESH

SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
Bureau File 100-127090

On April 24, 1943, [redacted]

[redacted] appeared at the Los Angeles Office where he was interviewed by SAC R. B. HOOD. At that time and also during a subsequent interview [redacted] SA's [redacted] and [redacted] furnished the following information:

It was his understanding that CHARLES CHAPLIN once assisted a Soviet Agent in leaving the United States by supplying him with funds. This agent, whose name [redacted] did not know, was later alleged to be the Chief Soviet Agent in Bulgaria. In the interview with SAC HOOD, [redacted] described the man as the "Number one Communist in Bulgaria." CHAPLIN apparently heard nothing from this person for a number of years until he, CHAPLIN, was in Berlin when he allegedly received a telephone call at his hotel from this unknown agent who requested that CHAPLIN call on him at his hotel. CHAPLIN went there and found a man living in luxury in an extensive suite and was at that time apparently in ill health. [redacted] continued that on the occasion of WENDELL WILKIE'S visit to the Soviet Union, one of the members of his party met this unknown Soviet agent in Russia and the agent feeling himself endangered by Stalinist animosity wrote a letter to CHAPLIN requesting CHAPLIN'S assistance. This letter was delivered to CHAPLIN by an unknown member of WENDELL WILKIE'S party, and [redacted] stated that he, himself, had seen this letter.

It has been ascertained that GARDNER BOWLES, publisher of the Des Moines Register and of other magazines and newspapers, and JOSEPH BARNES, a former Moscow correspondent, for the New York Herald-Tribune, both of whom were with the Office of War Information, accompanied WENDELL WILKIE on his trip to Russia.

Information has been received from several sources, including [redacted]

[redacted] WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and PAUL WILHELM MASSING, that JOSEPH BARNES was a member of a Soviet espionage apparatus. In view of this it is thought possible that BARNES could have been the individual who allegedly acted as a courier bringing a letter from a Soviet agent in Russia to CHARLES CHAPLIN.

cc: Omaha  
100-15641

[redacted] CMC

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Director, FBI

July 5, 1949

SAC, Los Angeles

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

The reputation, political beliefs and affiliations of GARDNER COWLES are not known to the Los Angeles Office.

In the event the Omaha Office considers COWLES to be a man of reliability and known loyalty, it is requested that he be interviewed for any possible information he may have regarding a letter being brought back from Russia to CHARLES CHAPLIN. It should be considered during interview that it is possible CHAPLIN himself may have been the courier.

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SAC, Los Angeles

August 3, 1949

Director, FBI

CHARLES SPENCER [redacted] was.  
INTERNAL SECURITY

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Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 5, 1949, at Los Angeles.

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A review of this file at the Bureau reflects that no substantial information has been developed to date which would indicate that the subject has been engaged in espionage or other intelligence activities. Considerable information has been obtained reflecting his association with Communists, Communist front groups, Russian officials, and suspected and known Soviet agents. It is believed that sufficient information of the latter character has been obtained and it is noted that a Security Index card has been prepared for the subject.

It is desired, therefore, that after the leads set forth in the referenced report have been covered and logical efforts made to determine whether or not the subject was in communication with a Soviet agent as alleged by [redacted] you submit your observations concerning further investigative steps to be taken in this case. At that time, you should advise the Bureau of your recommendation as to an interview with the subject.

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- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO. 100-23504

*pc-1*

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE AUG 12 1949	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/17, 20; 7/21,	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i> eb
---------------------------------	-------------------------------	--	---

TITLE CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN was	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R
--------------------------------------	--

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

*CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 1259 JPP/KEA*  
*REASON FOR EXTENSION 3*  
*FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2*  
*DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 7-3-89*

*REASON FOR EXTENSION 3*

[REDACTED]

*b-1*

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF [REDACTED] DATE 4-5-99

*6/25/95*

- RUC -

G.I.R.

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 100-127090.  
 Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated July 5, 1949, at Los Angeles  
 Letter from Los Angeles to San Francisco dated May 20, 1949.

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

[REDACTED]

*b-1*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 11/15/73	100-127090-51	RECORDED - 72	INDEXED - 72
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		FBI	
5 - Bureau	1 - New York (info.)	AUG 19 1949	
1 - Washington Field (info.)	3 - Los Angeles (100-15641)	<i>b7c</i>	
3 - San Francisco (1 - 100-25591)			

PROPERTY OF FBI - This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
FBIHQ 100-127090-51, p. 2

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b7D

On June 7, 1944, San Francisco [REDACTED] of known reliability, furnished the information that EMERY BLANKFORD was one of 47 delegates elected by the Los Angeles County Communist Party to represent Los Angeles at the final session of the Communist Party State Convention held in San Francisco on June 10 and 11, 1944. It should be noted that the Communist Party has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b7D

San Francisco [REDACTED] of known reliability, advised that on September 18, 1948, that JERZY BEYIEN had addressed the Freedom Rally held at the California Labor school in San Francisco and had paid tribute to the school for the work it was carrying on. The California Labor has been cited by the Attorney General as being an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SF 100-20804

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

The June 28, 1943, and July 10, 1943, issues of the Daily People's World, which has been identified by the Joint Fact Finding Committee of the Un-American Activities Committee in California in 1948 as the West Coast mouth piece of the Communist Party, listed LESZYK ALBANI as the Director of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Polish representative of the governing body of the International Labor Organization, and head of the ILO convention held in San Francisco from June 17, to July 10, 1948. (U)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SF 100-29304

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Copies of this report have been designated for the New York and Washington Field Offices inasmuch as these offices have received copies of reference report and may in the future be requested to conduct additional investigation in this matter. (U)

- 6 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) b1; b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
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SAC, Los Angeles

September 12, 1949

Director, FBI

CHARLES SPEECER CHAPLIN, was  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEM

You are requested to advise the Bureau of the  
status of this investigation.

MAILED 8  
SEP 12 1949 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED - 1

100-127090-152  
FBI  
51 SEP 13 1949

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

b7c

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200-21000

de  
ABP  
JMK  
ETH

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, New York  
SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
(Bufile 100-127090)

DATE: October 12, 1949

Re Los Angeles letters, 7/5/49 and 8/10/49, requesting that GARDNER COWLES, President of "Look" magazine, New York City, be interviewed in the captioned matter.

GARDNER COWLES was interviewed on 10/10/49 in the offices of "Look" magazine, 511 5th Avenue, New York City, at which time he advised that he knew nothing concerning a letter being brought back from Russia to CHARLES CHAPLIN. COWLES stated that if anyone acted as a courier it was his opinion that it was JOSEPH BARNES, a former Moscow correspondent for the "New York Herald Tribune" who accompanied GARDNER COWLES and WENDELL WILKIE on their trip to Russia, because it was generally known that BARNES was inclined toward the left. R.U.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEH

cc: Los Angeles

LS  
100-85387

RECORDED - 47  
INDEXED - 47

EX-8

100-127090-53  
OCT 18 1949

EST

24

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: October 7, 1949

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF COMPLETION DATE 10-15-49 EASTON

*R.B.H. from*

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was. INTERNAL SECURITY - R

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-23-89 BY 1016/STW~~

Rebulet of September 12, 1949 requesting information concerning the status of this investigation. (U)

In the report of SA [redacted] Los Angeles, July 5, 1949, two leads were set out for the Los Angeles Office and one for the San Francisco Office. In addition, the New York Office was requested by letter to interview GARDNER COWLES. (U)

*b7c*

The lead for San Francisco has been covered and a report submitted. (U)

The lead for the Los Angeles Office to contact [redacted] of the Los Angeles Police Department Subversive Detail has been covered and now new information of value has been obtained. EDWARD C. CHANEY, CHARLES CHAPLIN'S former butler has been contacted, but very little information was obtained as the purpose of this first contact was to establish his attitude towards CHAPLIN and indications that he would be willing to furnish information to the Bureau. (U)

*b7c*

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[Redacted block]

*b1*

CKB  
100-15641  
New York

*Letter re: go: New York  
4/plan  
who sent out  
10/18/49  
at 5 PM checked to  
acc if abstract on  
mail filed - no  
10/19/49 checked to  
[redacted] REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 1-23-89*

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 1259 JSP/KET  
RECORDED - 66  
EX-62  
DECLASSIFIED - 66

100-127090-54  
F B I  
13 OCT 14 1949

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

63 OCT 24 1949

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*Three [redacted] pic*

LA 100-15641

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

After GAR ...LES has been interviewed by the New York office and CHANEY has been interviewed by the Los Angeles office, it is contemplated that this case will be closed unless new significant information is developed in either of the interviews. Prior to closing of the case, a recommendation relative to an interview of CHAPLIN will be made. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DATE: October 26, 1949

*for*

*EE 1*

Rebulet October 18, 1949.

Your attention is respectfully directed to my letter of October 7, 1949, in reply to your letter of September 12, 1949. EDWARD C. CHANEY, mentioned in my letter of October 7, 1949, is presently unavailable for re-interview. Continuing efforts are being made to reinterview CHANEY, and when this is accomplished a report will be promptly submitted to the Bureau.

*b7c*

*100-15641*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEH

*G.I.R.T*

RECORDED - 14

*100-127090-55*  
F B I  
12 OCT 31 1949

*R124*  
56 NOV 7 1949

*FIVEETT*  
*Thru*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Tele. Room	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*ad*  
 TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 FROM : Alexander M. Campbell, Assistant Attorney General  
 SUBJECT: Charles Chaplan

DATE: November 24, 1949

cc: [unclear]

*Charles Spencer Chaplin*

Please send to my office as soon as possible personal study copies of all of the Bureau reports on Charles Chaplan, and especially am I interested in the field of subversive activities, any communist connections, associations or information concerning Communist Party activity, or front organization membership and/or activity.

RECORDED  
 Memo Campbell  
 [redacted]  
 11/25/49  
 ETC

SE  
 EX-126

100-127090-56  
 B I  
 4 NOV 30 1949

*amb.*

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 31

Assistant Attorney General Alexander M. Campbell  
Criminal Division

November 25, 1949

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHARLES CHAPLAN  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DECLASSIFIED BY 1259 JBL  
ON 1-3-79

RECORDED - 114 100-127090-56

Reference is made to your memorandum dated November 10, 1949, in which you requested copies of Bureau reports on the cap individual.

EX-126

The Bureau files fail to reflect any information identifiable with the name Charles Chaplan. In the event your request was in connection with the individual Charles Spencer Chaplin, Hollywood, California Motion Picture personality, please be advised that the following reports have been furnished the Division of Records in connection with this individual. All the following reports were in connection with the White Slave Traffic Act violation entitled, "Charles Spencer Chaplin; Victim, Mary Louise Gribble, was.":

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 9, 1943, at Los Angeles, California.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 16, 1944, at Detroit.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 25, 1944, at Los Angeles.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 25, 1944, at Chicago.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 28, 1944, at Omaha.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 18, 1944, at Newark.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 18, 1944, at Oklahoma City.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 18, 1944, at Baltimore.

see note on page 2 of yellow

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF [redacted]  
DATE 4-5-79

MAILED 17  
NOV 28 1949  
COMM - FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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NOV 28 1949

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NOV 28 1949  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI  
RECORDED COPY FILED IN 31-684

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated  
March 24, 1944, at San Antonio, Texas.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated March 28,  
1944, at Chicago.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated April 13,  
1944, at Los Angeles.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 30,  
1944, at Los Angeles.

The Bureau will be pleased to make a further check of its  
files on the name originally requested providing further identifying  
data is available on the name Charles Chaplan.

Note: In connection with the above-mentioned White Slave Traffic Act  
investigation on Chaplin, copies of all the Bureau's reports were not  
furnished to the Division of Records. Only those above-mentioned.

In addition, an Internal Security - R investigation on  
Charles Spencer Chaplin is presently pending. This investigation began  
on September 9, 1946, and at present the Los Angeles Office is endeavoring  
to interview Edward C. Chaney, Chaplin's former Butler for a period of  
approximately 3½ years during the early 1940's. None of the Bureau's  
investigation reports have been released to the Division of Records in  
the latter investigation for security reasons.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. [redacted]	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

DEC 27 1949  
TELETYPE

*Handwritten initials*

WASH 2 FROM LOS ANGELES 27 4-5 5 PM

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEH

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, WAS., IS R. REBUTEL DEC. TWENTYTWO LAST. NO WITNESSES AVAILABLE TO TESTIFY AFFIRMATIVELY THAT CHAPLAN HAS BEEN MEMBER CP IN PAST, THAT HE IS NOW A MEMBER OR THAT HE HAS CONTRIBUTED FUNDS TO CP. [redacted] IN DEC. FORTYSEVEN, ADVISED THAT HOWARD RUSHMORE, WHILE BUSINESS MGR FOR DAILY WORKER, WAS PRESENT ON ONE OCCASION WHEN CHAPLIN PAID HIS MEMBERSHIP DUES TO CP. RUSHMORE HAS NOT BEEN INTERVIEWED REGARDING THIS STATEMENT. IN DEC. THIRTYNINE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE ADVISED THAT THEIR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [redacted] STATED RAPHAEL RUSH -WHO WAS CONVICTED OF VIOLATION OF REGISTRATION ACT- WAS SENT TO HOLLYWOOD TO OBTAIN MONEY FOR QUOTE A SOVIET AMERICA TO COME UNQUOTE AND THAT CHAPLIN AMONG OTHERS DONATED LIBERALLY TO THE QUOTE CAUSE UNQUOTE. NOT KNOWN IF THIS REFERS TO CP OR TO FRONT ORGANIZATION. CLOSING REPORT IN CHAPLIN CASE IN PROCESS TYPING.

HOOD

RECORDED - 124  
INDEXED - 124

100-127040-159  
JAN 3 1950  
3

END

OOKT

LAM R 2 WA

EX-128

COPIES DESTROYED 1/9/59 RUC 2

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
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b7D  
b7c  
b7c

Mr. Peyton Ford  
The Assistant to the Attorney General

December 29, 1949

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, with aliases  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

88286

RECORDED: 127/100 - 127090-57

EX-128

In accordance with your request of Mr. D. W. Ladd, the files of this Bureau have been reviewed to determine whether or not information is available which could be used in a trial to establish that the captioned individual was a member of the Communist Party or had donated funds to the Communist Party.

It was determined that there are no witnesses available who could offer testimony that Chaplin has been a member of the Communist Party in the past, is now a member, or that he has contributed funds to the Communist Party.

This Bureau was advised in December, 1947, that Howard Rushmore, while he was business manager for the Daily Worker, was allegedly present on one occasion when Chaplin paid his membership dues to the Communist Party. Rushmore, however, has not been interviewed in this connection. Unless you specifically request an interview with Rushmore, this will not be done, and no further action will be taken in this matter.

DECLASSIFIED BY 1259 JSP/KEN  
ON 1-3-79  
1-3-78

Confidential Informant [redacted] of the San Francisco Office, referred to in Los Angeles teletype December 27, 1949, is identical with [redacted] a former confidential informant who was discontinued because he was unreliable.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF Classification  
DATE 4/5/79 GBS/RLS

MAILED 12  
DEC 30 1949  
COMM - FBI

52 JAN 5 1950

360

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

G.I. R. 25

DEC 30 1949  
JSP/KEN  
JH HBF

2/11/50

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE:

FROM : D. L. Ladd

December 21, 1949

SUBJECT: CHARLIE CHAPLIN

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

I took the memorandum from Alex Campbell over to Peyton Ford in the Department, and told him that it was your feeling that both he and the Attorney General should know of this investigation before it was instituted; that it was bound to reach the press as soon as the inquiry was started, particularly in view of the fact that Howard Rushmore would be one of the first persons who would have to be contacted, and the Hearst papers would then carry stories on it, and secondly because of the inquiries attempting to revive the old abortion case in which Chaplin was allegedly involved six or seven years ago.

Mr. Ford stated he had talked with Alex Campbell about this matter and had told Campbell to send a memorandum to him before any steps were taken; that Campbell was supposed to have done so, but did not. He asked me to leave the memorandum with him and to disregard the request for an investigation for the time being. He requested, however, that the Bureau check its files to see if there is any information therein which could be used in a trial to establish that Chaplin was a member of the Communist Party or had donated funds to the Communist Party itself. He indicated after he received this material he would further consider the question.

RECORDED - 124

100-12100-58

JAN 3 1950

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EX-128

DL:L:SSH

TT to LA  
12/22/49  
memo to Mr. Peyton Ford  
12/29/49  
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

52 JAN 5 1950

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

*mw*

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

ROUTINE IN FULL

12/22/49

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, LOS ANGELES

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, WAS, INTERNAL SECURITY - R. REQUEST YOU IMMEDIATELY REVIEW FILE THIS CASE TO DETERMINE IF WITNESSES ARE AVAILABLE TO TESTIFY AFFIRMATIVELY TO FOLLOWING: ONE, HAS CHAPLIN BEEN MEMBER OF COMMUNIST PARTY IN PAST? TWO, IS HE NOW A MEMBER? THREE, HAS HE CONTRIBUTED FUNDS TO COMMUNIST PARTY? SUTEL NAMES, WITNESSES, AND BRIEF SUMMARY POSSIBLE TESTIMONY. IF ANY WITNESSES ARE CURRENT COMMUNIST PARTY INFORMANTS WHOSE IDENTITIES SHOULD NOT BE PUBLICLY EXPOSED, YOU SHOULD SO SPECIFY.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

HOOVER

*Enemy*  
2350-0015

G.I.R.-7

REC'D COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
DEC 23 1949  
100

*This is per request of Mr. Peyton  
Hof of Dept. of Justice for this information.*

RECORDED - 112

DEC 29 1949

100-127090-57

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TELETYPE

DEC 22 1949

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

REC'D COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 22 1949

III

Per

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*ETT*

50 JAN 6 1950  
SENT VIA \_\_\_\_\_

8:24P M



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: January 5, 1950

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was  
INTERNAL SECURITY-R  
Bufile 100-127090.

CLASS. & EXT. BY 1259 DP  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.3  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-3-89

Rebulet of August 3, 1949 requesting the Los Angeles to make a recommendation as to an interview with CHARLES CHAPLIN. (U)

It is believed that an interview with CHAPLIN would be unproductive, and it is not being recommended. It will be recalled that in April, 1948 CHAPLIN was interviewed by Examining Inspector JOHN P. BOYD of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in connection with CHAPLIN's application for a re-entry permit. Although some information was obtained from CHAPLIN at this time, the interview for the most part was inconclusive because CHAPLIN would either deny allegations, explain them in his own manner or state that he did not remember. (U)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ROUTING SLIP(S) OF THIS MEMORANDUM TO BE FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, FBI, BY THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-3-89 BY 1259 DP~~

b7c [REDACTED] /MCR 100-15641

Let to Mr. Tolson 2-7-50 b7c

RECORDED - 81

100-127090-60  
JAN 10 1950

EX-75

143  
FEB 24 1950

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FIVE [REDACTED] b7c

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Lish White  
FROM : E. T. Turner  
SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, WAS.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
Bureau File #100-127090

DATE: January 6, 1950

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

For record purposes you are advised that the cross references to the subject as reflected on the attached search slips have been reviewed without disclosing any pertinent information regarding the subject which is not already set forth in detail or in summary form in the main file.

It is recommended that this memorandum be placed in the main file for further reference.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEM

RECORDED - 49

100-127090-61

EX-87

JAN 12 1950

5-ER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12-1  
mtt-1

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. 5641

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE 1-5-50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/15, 19; 10/5; 12/4, 6, 13, 15, 19/49.	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i> MCR
TITLE <b>CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was Charley Chaplin Thonstein.</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

CHAPLIN was member of U.S. Committee of the American Continental Congress for Peace held in Mexico City, Sept. 5-10, 1949. (U)

*cc - Commissioner (WS)  
b7c (Det. A)  
1-23-51*

- C -

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau File 100-127090. *b7c*  
Report of SA [REDACTED],  
San Francisco, 8/12/49.  
Report of SA [REDACTED],  
Los Angeles, 7/5/49. (U)

*OK  
6-10-50  
4-18-56*

**CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 59 JJP/SEN  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 1-4-89**

**DETAILS:**

The New York Office advised that Informant [REDACTED] of known reliability, was interviewed on October 10, 1949 at which time he advised that he knew nothing concerning a letter being brought back from Russia to CHARLES CHAPLIN. (U)

Informant [REDACTED] of known reliability, advised that Mrs. GEORGE WILNER informed CHARLES CHAPLIN's butler that the American Continental Congress for World Peace was having their first meeting on the following Wednesday and she would like to know if CHAPLIN's name could be used along with others in connection with a letter they were going to send out with regard to the American Continental Congress for World Peace. (U)

*b-1*

DATE

PROVED AND FORWARDED:

*R. B. Hood*  
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Bureau  
Los Angeles

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JAN 10 1950

RECORDED 9

INDEXED 9

DESTROYED 1/9/59 R432

7-2034

**(OVER)**

(C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-15641

b7D Informant [redacted] of known reliability, furnished a letterhead of the United States Committee, American Continental Congress for Peace which showed the name of CHARLES CHAPLIN as a member of the United States Committee for this Congress. (U)

The Los Angeles TIMES newspaper for August, 15, 1949 carried an A.P. dispatch datelined August 14, at Washington, D.C., which stated, "A call for an 'American Continental Congress for Peace' in Mexico City (Sept. 5-10) made the State Department see red today." "ROGER W. TUBBY, a news officer for the State Department, told a reporter: 'It appears that it will be another Moscow-directed conference. We fully expect that the activities will be devoted to providing an apologia for the Moscow point of view.'" (U)

b7c On September 23, 1949 Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] attended a meeting held in Los Angeles at which the official delegates from the Hollywood Arts, Sciences and Professions to the American Continental Congress for World Peace at Mexico City reported on the Congress. During the course of this meeting DAVID ROBINSON, Executive Director of the Hollywood Arts, Sciences and Professions remarked that the American Continental Congress had really been a follow-up on the Paris Peace Conference of last summer. (U)

b7c Hollywood ASP is the local chapter of the National ASP Council, headquarters of which is in New York. On June 20, 1949 Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] personally identified JOHN HOWARD LAWSON and HERBERT BIBERMAN as they arrived to attend a small gathering at the home of GEORGE PEPPER, which meeting was identified by Informant [redacted] a reliable source, as a meeting of the "steering committee." LAWSON, BIBERMAN and PEPPER as well as Hollywood ASP's current Executive Director, DAVID ROBINSON, have all been identified as having been members of the Communist Party in Los Angeles, according to Informant [redacted] a reliable source. (U)

b7D Informant [redacted] of unknown reliability, who for several years prior to 1944 was in a position to know CHAPLIN's activities, was interviewed on December 4, 1949 and stated that there is no doubt in his mind that CHAPLIN is sympathetic to Communist principles. The informant was unable to cite any specific instances but stated that he was well enough acquainted with CHAPLIN to know that he had such sympathies. (U)

He stated that CHAPLIN was quite friendly with a number of Soviet officials connected with the Soviet Vice Consulate in Los Angeles and on frequent occasions, these officials came to CHAPLIN's house and in turn CHAPLIN was invited to the Vice Consulate in Los Angeles. Again, the informant

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-15641

was unable to furnish the names of any of these Soviet officials with the exception of a former Vice Consulate V.V. PASTOEV, who was the Vice Consul in 1943. Informant remembers PASTOEV's name only because he recalls that some time about 1943 PASTOEV presented CHARLES CHAPLIN with a Russian cub bear. Informant stated that on some occasions the Soviet officials did not come to CHAPLIN's house, but merely made use of his recreation facilities such as tennis courts and his swimming pool. ~~SECRET~~ (U)

- C L O S E D -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-15641

ADMINISTRATIVE

Informant [redacted] mentioned in the first paragraph of this report, stated that if anyone acted as a courier, it was his opinion that it was JOSEPH BARNES, a former [redacted] correspondent of the New York HERALD TRIBUNE because it was generally known that BARNES was "inclined to the left." It will be noted that BARNES accompanied WENDELL WILLKIE on his trip to Russia in 1942. Identifying information regarding BARNES has been set out in the referenced report of the writer in this case. (U)

Informant [redacted] mentioned in the investigative section of this report, advised that he had no knowledge of any letter brought to CHARLES CHAPLIN from an individual in Russia by a member of WENDELL WILLKIE's party which toured Russia in 1942. He further said that he did not believe that CHARLES CHAPLIN did actually serve as an espionage or intelligence agent for the Russians because such work requires a certain amount of courage and that CHAPLIN does not have this. He added that in his opinion CHAPLIN is a coward and although he might be friendly with the Soviet officials, it would be mainly for the purpose of bolstering his own ego. Informant, however, added that it was entirely possible in his opinion that Russian officials could have obtained information of general nature from CHAPLIN without CHAPLIN being aware of the purpose or that he was giving information which the Russians desired to have. [redacted] (U)

Informant stated that on no occasion was he aware of the fact that CHAPLIN ever received mail from Russia through the Soviet officials in Los Angeles or that CHAPLIN had sent mail to Russia through these channels. Informant stated that he recalls one incident when CHAPLIN pledged the sum of \$2,000.00 to Russian War Relief at some meeting which took place in New York; that for months after this, the organization was endeavoring to collect this pledge from CHAPLIN, and finally the studio did make a check in the amount of \$2,000.00 which CHAPLIN left lying on his desk at his home for a period of several months unsigned. The informant was unable to state in fact whether CHAPLIN did sign this check. (U)

67D [redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Administrative, continued

[REDACTED]

b7D

(U)

Informant stated that he is of the opinion that CHAPLIN prefers living in the United States and does not think that CHAPLIN would do anything to injure the United States. He believes CHAPLIN would like to become an American citizen, but has not done so in recent years because he hates to go through all the "red tape" and the publicity which would result. He said CHAPLIN hates to have anyone think that he is ignorant. He likened CHAPLIN's mental attitude to a man who always carries a chip on his shoulder. He explained this by saying that if CHAPLIN is asked a question about his past activities which he has in fact forgotten, rather than indicate a lack of memory CHAPLIN will contradict the statement or even deny it. Informant added that as a result of this attitude, CHAPLIN has fallen into trouble on several occasions. (U)

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(C)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(C)

Informant concluded by saying that he had very little respect for CHAPLIN and considered him a cheap, immoral individual. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-15641

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Administrative, continued

b7D  
On September 15, 1949, Informant [redacted] of unknown liability, advised that ANNA LOUISE STRONG, well known pro-Russian pianist, who was recently expelled from Russia on the grounds that she was an American spy, was to attend a meeting of some nature at the home of CHARLES CHAPLIN on the evening of September 19, 1949. (U)

b7C  
Special Agents [redacted] and the writer conducted a surveillance in the vicinity of the CHAPLIN residence, 1084 Summit Drive, Beverly Hills on this particular evening and no cars were observed entering the CHAPLIN residence and there was no evidence of activity indicating that any kind of a meeting was being held there. ANNA LOUISE STRONG was not observed entering the CHAPLIN residence. (U)

b7C  
On October 5, 1949 the records of the Los Angeles Police Department Subversive Detail, Wilshire Division, were checked through Detective [redacted] without revealing any additional information regarding CHAPLIN's activities in the past. (U)

Informants of the Los Angeles Office who would be in a position to know of CHAPLIN's contacts with Communists in the Los Angeles area have been unable to furnish information indicating that CHAPLIN is active in Communist matters at the present time. In view of this fact and in view of the fact that no evidence has been obtained indicating that CHAPLIN has or is actually at the present time involved in Soviet espionage, this case is being closed. (U)



XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) b1; b7c; b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
FBIHQ 100-127090-62, p. 7

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

*my* Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
FROM: Peyton Ford, The Assistant to the Attorney General  
SUBJECT: CHARLES WAPLIN.

DATE: January 13, 1950

FW: W

146-1-12-1232

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ladd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Glavin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Harbo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*CONFIDENTIAL*  
*W. J. [unclear]*

This is in reference to your memorandum of December 29, 1949, in which you advise that unless specifically directed you do not contemplate interviewing Howard Rushmore.

The Department believes it inadvisable at the present time to contact Rushmore in any way regarding the above subject.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

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23 MAY 16 1974

SE 20 12

RECORDED - 11

V-100-127090-6  
JAN 24 1950

INDEXED - 11

EX-78

5-277

52 JAN 31 1950  
*246*

*@ J. Edgar Hoover*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. WHITSON *M*  
 FROM : E. T. Turner *ET*  
 SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN,  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DATE: February 7, 1950

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/K

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose:

To recommend that this case be closed.

Background:

Investigation of Chaplin's activities has been pending since November, 1946. Complete background information has been obtained and considerable information concerning his pro-Communist sympathies and activities has been developed. However, no information has been developed indicating that Chaplin has engaged in espionage activity or is so engaged at the present time.

Consideration has been given to an interview with subject by the Los Angeles Office but was not recommended inasmuch as it was believed that such an interview would be entirely unproductive. The Los Angeles Office recommends that the case be closed without interview but that the Security Index card for Chaplin be continued.

Cross references to Chaplin as reflected on search slips prepared on October 27, 1949, were reviewed without disclosing any pertinent information not already in the main file. (see 100-127090-61) In addition, the cross references as reflected on the attached search slip covering references to Chaplin subsequent to October have been reviewed and no pertinent information was revealed therein.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this case be closed in accordance with the closing report of the Los Angeles Office dated January 5, 1950, which is attached.

(See Serial 62)  
 Attachment

*OK*  
*JM*

*b7c*

*ow*

143  
 FEB 24 1950

RECORDED - 31

100-127090-64  
 FEB 16 1950

EX-103

34

*51*  
*b7c*

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

April 25, 1950

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ladd	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Harbo	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Belmont	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

The attached was sent in by Walter Winchell. The pencilled notations thereon read as follows:

"To Dick Berlin then Mr. Hoover"

"Walter, Thought you'd like to see what the Dirty Worker, April 17,"

Attachment

mpd

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JDP/REN

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
5. b7c

KC  
72 -  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 SST/KAJ

THE MIRROR's Walter Winchell graciously observes that "Chaplin's City Lights reminds you how wonderful he is when making the world laugh - instead of arguing about his views." Of course, if Chaplin howled for war and stooged for the witchhunt, Winchell'd let him state his views. After all, it's a free country, isn't it?

(Thanks to Eric D. and George Renard for their contributions of \$1 each, to the drive. Press Round-up hasn't asked for contributions heretofore, but it feels nice. Please keep it up. -R.F.)

... in the Weekend Work

RECORDED - 131 5

100-171090-  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Walter

167  
MAY 15 1950

Thought you'd like to see what  
the *Dutch* workers, April 17,

RECEIVED

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Hennrich <sup>CEH</sup>  
FROM : Mr. E. T. Turner <sup>ET</sup>  
SUBJECT: CHARLIE CHAPLIN  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
Bureau File 100-127090

DATE: May 4, 1950

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

PURPOSE

b7D

To record in Chaplin's main file information concerning him received from Confidential Informant [redacted] in connection with the Mocase investigation.

DETAILS

b7D  
b7C

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted] on March 16, 1950, that during his trip to Moscow in January and February, 1950, Petr Fedotov, the Acting Minister of State Security asked the informant what he thought of Charlie Chaplin, and whether he believed Chaplin was actually a Communist. He questioned the informant as to whether Chaplin actually has "our sympathies" truly in his heart and if Chaplin would go to Russia. Fedotov stated that if Chaplin would go to Moscow they would give him anything including a villa for life. He said that Joseph Stalin wants to see Chaplin and admires him very much. Stalin, according to Fedotov, is interested in the prestige and reputation of the USSR in the world and if Chaplin would move to Russia, it would be good propaganda.

2

Fedotov indicated that some day the informant might be requested to contact Chaplin and ask him to come to Moscow.

b7D

It should be noted that Confidential Informant [redacted] has been since July, 1947 acting as a double agent for the Bureau. The information set forth above should not be disseminated outside of the Bureau in order that the double agent's position will not be jeopardized.

ACTION

None. The above is for record purposes.

b7C

[redacted] EHW

RECORDED - 80 / 20-13744-66  
MAY 11 1950  
EX-6 19

77 52 1950

51  
b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 14, 1950

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
(Bureau file 100-127090)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, formerly managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary until he broke with the Party in October, 1945 has been interviewed during the past few months concerning the concealed Communists whom he knew. The person named above as the subject of this case, was one of those individuals whom BUDENZ described as a concealed Communist. BUDENZ describes a concealed Communist as one who does not hold himself out as a Communist and who would deny membership in the Party.

B-7C BUDENZ advised SA [redacted] on June 21, 1950 of all he knew concerning the subject, that he felt was pertinent, and he dictated this information to a stenographer of this office, who was present during the interview.

He used, in order to bring out all he knew about the subject, the following set of questions. He considered all questions in connection with this subject. Where he did not comment on some particular question as to the activity of the subject, then it is because he had no knowledge. If he recalled anything about the subject as a result of these questions he dictated what he knew. The questions are as follows:

1. Identify individual
  - a. If observed a description and other identifying data;
  - b. If not seen, enough descriptive data about individual to positively identify him or her;
  - c. Any aliases
2. Narrate how he knows individual as a Communist
  - a. If seen at a closed meeting get date, place and persons present at meeting
  - b. If told officially that individual was a Communist, who said it, what were the circumstances, and who was present;
  - c. Relate all occasions when he met or heard of individual as Communist.
3. Documents
  - a. Did individual ever write anything that might be considered Communist literature.
    1. For "Daily Worker", "New Masses", "Political Affairs", and any front publications or other publications.

cc Los Angeles (100-25591)

cc 62-8988

100-85188

INDEXED - 117

RECORDED - 117

EX-30

100-127090-67  
12  
EFT

100-85188  
AUG 1 1950

COPIES DESTROYED 11/9/59 1432

Letter to Director  
NY 100-85387

4. Fronts  
Was individual active in front organizations.
  - a. Which organizations?
  - b. How active was individual?
5. Espionage  
  
Was individual ever involved in secret work;  
What work;  
Who knew it;  
Did individual ever do any special work for party.
6. Is individual still active or sympathetic toward Party.
7. Can you recall any trips abroad particularly to Russia and the approximate date of the trips? Can you recall the nature of the trips.
8. Did you ever hear that he had attended any of the training schools in Russia?
9. Did this subject appear to have entree to the Russian Consulate or did he receive special consideration and attention from known Russian Agents or Communist Officials in U.S.?
10. Is the subject working for the U.S. Government or is he affiliated in any way in Confidential Government work at this time?
11. Did this individual have military training, Abraham Lincoln Brigade, U.S. Army, other service?
12. Was this individual employed in vital industry?
13. Do you know any other members of his family who are Communists?
14. Do you know of any other activity on the part of the individual which would indicate that the individual is a concealed Communist?

Additional questions were asked as a result of his answers to the above questions in order to fully develop his information.



Letter to Director  
NY 100-85387

Attached is a blind memorandum dictated by LOUIS F. BUDENZ and containing all the pertinent information concerning the subject which BUDENZ could presently recollect.

The original of each memo has been reviewed by BUDENZ and he has made any necessary corrections and he has signed the original. The signed original of each memo is being retained in the confidential informant file of LOUIS F. BUDENZ, NY file 62-8988.

Since the individuals such as the subject of this case are, according to BUDENZ, concealed Communists and since they are, in most instances, persons of some prominence, it is suggested that if the information appearing in the attached blind memo is reported, then Mr. BUDENZ should be given a temporary confidential informant symbol.

For the information of the Bureau the subject is one of the 400 concealed Communists whom BUDENZ stated he knew. The names of these concealed Communists were sent to the Bureau in the case captioned "Communist Party, USA, Internal Security - C".

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

Noted moving picture artist. Part owner of United Artists.

Very early in my membership in the Communist Party - perhaps in 1936 - I was advised first by CLARENCE HATHAWAY and then by JACK STACHEL that CHAPLIN was "the equivalent of a member of the Party". The occasion for this information arose in connection with a report that CHAPLIN had submitted the text of his moving picture "Modern Times" to the Moscow Board of Censorship in Russia and that he had changed certain sections of the production to conform to their criticism. As I recall, this item appeared in the Daily Worker and that is how I came to discuss it in order to be able to explain it to certain comrades in the trade unions.

The second occasion when I learned of CHAPLIN's adherence to the Party was in connection with a proposal that he apply for citizenship. This came about in the early 1940's and was discussed in a Politburo meeting briefly. It was stated then by BROWDER, as the consensus of opinion, that CHAPLIN should not apply for citizenship since it would raise the whole question of his being an alien, an attack on his personal life, and all sorts of things that might lead to his deportation. That advice supposedly was to be sent to WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN on the coast.

The third occasion was in connection with both the second front meeting and the action of JOAN HARRY against him. On both these occasions, DENNIS and STACHEL emphasized CHAPLIN's adherence to the Party. In the latter case, the Daily Worker was ordered to run an editorial defending CHAPLIN's private morals, that being the only occasion where any such order was given while I was with the Daily Worker. JACK STACHEL stated the reason for this order was that "we had to defend the integrity of CHAPLIN, a Communist artist".

Repeatedly I have heard of his financial aid to the Communist Party and to its fronts from ROBERT WILLIAM WEINER, LEO HARRIS, and also prominent members of the Politburo. This information was given me up to the time I left the Party.

He has been a member of a number of fronts, however, the Party was very careful when they used CHAPLIN so that he would not be under attack.

1 100-127090-67

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: 8/2/50

SUBJECT: THE NEW GLOBE THEATRE  
7165 Beverly Blvd.,  
Los Angeles, California  
IRVING WHITE, owner  
COPYRIGHT MATTER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEA

On July 27, 1950, CHARLES A. LORING, attorney associated with the firm of Wright, Wright, Green and Wright, 111 West 7th Street, telephoned the Los Angeles Office and advised that his firm represented CHARLIE CHAPLIN, actor, and that CHAPLIN had recently become aware that one of his films entitled "The Circus" was to be shown by subject theatre on July 28 and 29, 1950, for the benefit of the Daily People's World, the west coast Communist newspaper. CHAPLIN upon learning of the proposed exhibition instructed his attorneys to take all legal steps to prevent such an exhibition and to prosecute the proposed exhibitors to the fullest extent of the law. Mr. LORING said that CHAPLIN was unable to explain how this theatre obtained a print of "The Circus" as it was one of the films solely owned by CHAPLIN which had not been released to the exhibitors and their copyrights waived. Mr. LORING pointed out that CHAPLIN still retained full control of a few of his films.

Mr. LORING said he desired to make a record of this matter with the FBI and in case the showing actually took place, he felt that it would be a violation of the criminal section of the Copyright statute. He further said that the film had been widely advertised in the Daily People's World in Los Angeles for the past few days and the showing was for the benefit of the Daily People's World.

CHAPLIN, according to Mr. LORING, was incensed about the unauthorized use of his film, implying that he approved of the showing for the benefit of the Daily People's World. LORING said that CHAPLIN frequently received credit for affiliation with the Communist groups which was unjustified.

On July 28, 1950, Mr. LORING phoned and said that he had sent a telegram to the People's World and to the subject theatre advising them that if the exhibition of the film, as advertised, took place, it would be in violation of the Copyright laws and that CHAPLIN intended to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law.

Mr. IRVING WHITE, owner of the theatre, had told Mr. LORING that in view of this fact the exhibition would be cancelled. Mr. WHITE explained that he had not planned to exhibit the film, but as the owner of the theatre he had leased the theatre to individuals who planned to exhibit the film. Mr. WHITE refused to disclose the identity of these individuals to Mr. LORING.

No action was taken by this office and the above is furnished for informational purposes. The enclosed article from the Los Angeles Times of July 30, 1950 comments on the matter.

AMSD  
Enc.  
28-0

JAJ  
AUG 15 1950

RECORDED - 58  
INDEXED 58  
AUG 7 1950  
EX-40  
FIV  
87C

Handwritten notes: "MAG... MOORE... B... 8/15/50"

ENCLOSURE

58  
ENCL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

## Chaplin Film Showing for People's World Denied

Hedda Hopper's column in  
The Times yesterday stated:

"The Commie Daily People's  
World advertised that Charlie  
Chaplin's picture 'The Circus' is  
being shown here for their  
benefit. While our boys die in  
Korea. Chaplin's picture is  
making money for the loyal  
Commie opposition."

Yesterday Charles A. Loring  
of the legal firm of Wright,  
Wright, Green & Wright, rep-  
resenting Mr. Chaplin, sent The  
Times the following telegram:  
"Please be advised that the  
print of 'The Circus' purported-  
ly to be shown on Friday and  
Saturday, July 28 and 29, 1950,  
was not lawfully in the pos-  
session of the proposed exhibi-  
tor and such exhibitor had no  
legal right to exhibit it for prof-  
it for the benefit of the Daily  
People's World or for any other  
purpose."

"Prior to Thursday, July 27,  
1950, Mr. Chaplin had no knowl-  
edge of such proposed exhibi-  
tion of 'The Circus' for the  
benefit of the Daily People's

World and did not at any time  
authorize or consent to such  
exhibition.

"Upon learning of such pro-  
posed exhibition Mr. Chaplin  
instructed his attorney to take  
all legal steps to prevent such  
exhibition and to prosecute the  
proposed exhibitors to the full  
extent of the law.

"Said attorneys immediately  
consulted with the FBI and  
served appropriate legal notices  
on the theater and on the Daily  
People's World. We are advised  
that the proposed exhibition  
was canceled. So far as known  
to Mr. Chaplin and his attor-  
neys 'The Circus' has not been  
exhibited at any time or place  
for the benefit of the Daily Peo-  
ple's World or any Communis-  
tic organization and neither  
such pictures nor any other  
Chaplin picture will hereafter  
be shown for such purpose  
with Mr. Chaplin's knowledge  
or consent."

The Times takes this oppor-  
tunity to present the statement  
of Mr. Chaplin's attorneys.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JUL 30 1950

August 15, 1950

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Enclosed for your information are copies of an anonymous letter postmarked July 26, 1950, at Culver City, California, setting forth allegations regarding persons in the motion picture industry.

The persons mentioned are known to your office. Specific reference is made to [redacted] and [redacted] L. A. file 100-30894; Frederic March, L.A. file 100-12405; [redacted], L. A. file 100-25514; Larry Parks, L. A. file 100-21939; [redacted], L. A. file 100-25066; and Charles Chaplin, L. A. file 100-15641.

- 100-352566 ([redacted])
- 100-2245 (March)
- 100-353031 ([redacted])
- 100-326671 (Parks)
- 100-362238 ([redacted])
- 100-127090 (Chaplin)

b7c

b7c

b7c

100-127090 - ✓

[redacted] jbc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEW

NOT RECORDED  
145 AUG 24 1950

52 SEP 5 1950

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-127090-156

copy;t

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I heard over the Radio today that we should turn in the names of any person or persons that we know to be subversive. Here is a list of names that should definitely be investigated —

- \*1. Betsy Blair  
(Gene Kelly's wife)      pro-Red and Paul Robson  
advocate - very active at  
meetings.
- \*2. Gene Kelly      725 N. Rodeo Dr. Bev. Hills Cal  
They have meetings at this  
house at which they live.
- \*3. Stanely Donen      MGM Director
- 4. Frederic March      Actor

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1299 JSP/KEH

- 1. Hedy Lamarr - Actress      Sono Osato - Dancer
- 2. Arthur Julian - Writer      Adolph Green - writer
- 3. Howard Leeds -      Betty Comdon
- 4. Lena Horne - Singer      Sol Chaplin - song writer
- 5. Richard Conte - Actor      Phil Silvers - Comedian
- 6. Donna Reed - Actress

Also check on

Larry Parks  
Betty Garrett  
Lloyd Bridges

Actor's Lab - Sunset & Laurel Canyon - Hollywood

Charles Chaplin has a bunch of friends nightly go to see "City Lights" at 4 Star Theater here on Wilshire Blvd. and boo America's joining Korea fighting. There's a lot going on with actors here.

100-127090-  
NOT RECORDED  
145 AUG 25 1950

100-1374-656  
ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-1374-656

b7c

file -

New Sir. Aug 18-50  
" How is it, that  
Charlie Chaplin isn't  
deported? Was he not a  
Communist - & would  
never give aid, to funds.  
or help as other actors  
& actresses - U.S.O. entertain  
our boys etc - make some  
remarks against them -  
with his record he & his  
oodles, ought to be  
deported NOW & made  
to live in Russia under  
De Stalin, why feed et  
Bridges at our expense?

Charles Chaplin

ack-1  
b7c

[Redacted]

ack  
5-29-50  
wcs

RECORDED - 45  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSPIKEA EX-100

120-127090-69  
AUG 21 1950  
12 311

[Redacted]  
b7c

August 29, 1950

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/REN  
G. I. R. - 1

Ja

b7c

[REDACTED]

RECORDED - 45  
INDEXED - 45

100-121090-69

Dear [REDACTED]  
I have received your communication dated August 18, 1950, and I want to thank you for your interest in writing to me as you did.

EX-100

I regret to inform you that the rules of the Department of Justice prohibit my furnishing any confidential information which is required to answer the questions which you raised. In reference to your inquiry concerning deportation proceedings, I wish to advise you that this Bureau has no jurisdiction in such matters. You may wish to direct your inquiry to the Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Temporary Building X, 19th and East Capitol Streets, Northwest, Washington 25, D. C.

I do hope you will feel free in the future to call to the attention of the FBI any information which falls within its jurisdiction.

If such a case should arise you may desire to communicate directly with Mr. G. B. Norris, Special Agent in Charge of our St. Louis Office. His address is 423 U. S. Court House and Custom House, St. Louis 1, Missouri.

Sincerely yours,

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 4  
AUG 29 1950  
COMM - FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

This person has previously written to the Bureau conveying odd bits of information. (56-287 Section 2, 94; 62-48622; 100-0 Section 165, 9727; 61-1053-409; 62-26225-28)

52 SEP 12 1950

Section 2, Ser. 102

b7c

jdt

4 50 64, 3



SAC, Los Angeles

January 15, 1951

Director, FBI

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Your file 100-15641  
Bufile 100-127090

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEK

Re report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 5, 1950 at Los Angeles, character IS-E. *b7c*

It is requested that this case be reopened and a report be submitted, bringing the subject's activities up to date and embodying the information furnished recently by Louis F. Budenz. It should bear the character SM-C.

*b7c* [redacted] *bjc*  
*follow-up let. to S.A.*  
*3/19/51*  
[redacted] *b7c*

RECORDED - 99

EX-37

100-127090-10  
JAN 16 1951  
80  
*[Signature]*

COMM - FBI  
JAN 15 1951  
MAILED 19

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 12 4 21 PM '51  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI  
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM

380  
51 JAN 25 1951

*AH 100*  
*2 100*  
*981*

TRUE COPY

Dec 27 - 50

Dear Mr. Hoover.

Two years ago, perhaps it was earlier following the Charlie Chaplin trial for the support of the Barry girls child, I wrote and received a reply from the Dept of Justice answering my question, as to why he had not been deported. He had been in this country 25 years, had brought in an insane Mother and had addressed meetings in New York on communism for it. Presently - I read he had returned to England after making sure that he would be re-admitted to this Country. If you have not already done so I bet you to have Scotland Yard Keep a watch on him, for that rat has no good in him and in the present upheaval he could easily do a great deal of damage. You may get Enough to Keep him out of this Country. I see no reason why the bars must be let down for 25 years to anyone, and the British certainly don't do it. Please give this your immediate attention for Chaplins name has been connected with Communist front groups over a long time as no doubt no records show.

Very sincerely

ts/

b7c

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEW

DEC 27-50.

Dear Mr Hoover (M) 2.1  
Angie Chaplin  
 Two years ago, perhaps it  
 was earlier possibly the Charlie  
 Chaplin deal for the support of  
 the Faray girls club, ~~and~~  
 received a reply from the Dept of Justice  
 answering my question, as to why M  
 he had not been deported. He  
 had been in this country 25 years  
 had brought in the money himself  
 and had addressed meetings in New  
 York in Commission for etc. FIVE  
 none 1-6-51  
 ok + b7c

RECORDED - 81 101-15101-11  
1954

FIVE

Recently - I read he had returned to England after making sure that he secured to be re-admitted to the Country. If you have not already done so I beg you to have Scotland Yard keep a watch on him, for that rat has no good in him and in the present upheaval he could easily do a great deal of damage. You may get enough to keep him out of the Country. I see no reason why the bars must be let down for 25 years to

b7c

[REDACTED]

anyone used the British Cer  
tainly don't do it. Please  
give this your immediate  
attention, for Chaplin's name  
has been connected with  
Communist front agencies  
& long time as we should  
your records show.

Very sincerely

b7c

[REDACTED]

8-7-51

January 6, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/IKEN

[REDACTED]

RECORDED - 81

Dear [REDACTED]

INDEXED - 81

Thank you very much for your letter of December 27, 1950. I appreciate having the benefit of your observations in this matter, and I assure you it will be given appropriate attention.

EX-52

Whenever you have any data which you think might be of interest to the FBI, it is suggested you may desire to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Charlotte Office at 914 Johnston Building, Charlotte 2, North Carolina.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

CC: Charlotte, with copy of incoming by separate cover memo

ATTENTION SAC: By letter dated 7-19-50 correspondent furnished non-specific data concerning Anna Louise Strong.  
(100-7888-665)

b7c

[REDACTED] b7c

RECEIVED  
FBI  
JAN 6 5 50 PM '51  
REC'D - TOLSON'S OFFICE

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

61 FEB 1 1951

JAN 8 - 1951

COMM - FS

[Handwritten initials]

RB 4

March 10, 1951

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

400 CONCEALED COMMUNISTS REVEALED  
BY LOUIS F. BUDENZ  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bureau file 100-63

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JSP/KW

By teletype dated March 7, 1951, the New York Office advised that Louis F. Budenz was expecting to appear before the HCUA on March 14, 1951, with regard to Edward G. Robinson.

By Bureau teletype dated March 9, 1951, the New York Office was instructed to obtain from Budenz a list of those individuals concerning whom he expected to testify before the HCUA with particular care being exercised to obtain all names of those concealed Communists associated with screen or radio who might be mentioned.

By letter dated March 10, 1951, the New York Office advised that Budenz stated that he conceivably could be questioned about any member of the entire group of 400 individuals whom he has named as concealed Communists and that he had no advance information that the questioning would be confined to any particular segment of that group. He further stated that he has no independent recollection of any member of the group who is associated with the screen or radio industry.

The New York Office reviewed the Budenz names and selected 102 names as being possibly associated with the radio, screen, or television industries as performers, writers, directors, executives or persons active in the unions of the above-mentioned industries.

A review of this list of 102 names reflects the inclusion of the following individuals upon whom no report containing the Budenz information has been submitted by your office: James Cagney, Vera Caspary, Charles Chaplin, Lee J. Cobb, Ring Lardner, Jr., and Selena Royle.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ 100-2279; 101-6700; 100-127090; 100-366952; 100-295885; 100-372735  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

of the HCUA and the strong possibility of publicity resulting therefrom, further delay in the submission of reports concerning the above-mentioned individuals cannot be condoned by the Bureau. You are instructed therefore to submit reports on these individuals to reach the Bureau not later than April 10, 1951.

67 APR 4 1951

573  
jdt:seo

DUPLICATE YELLOW

NOT RECORDED  
101 APR 1 1951

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-127090-1111

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson  
FROM : L. B. Nichols  
SUBJECT:

DATE: March 28, 1951

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
Clegg	_____
Glavin	_____
Nichols	_____
Rosen	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Nease	_____
Gandy	_____

*b7c*  
By reference from the Director's Office, Mr. McGuire talked to [redacted] at 4:10 P.M. today, who was calling from the offices of World Affairs where he is one of the editors (1612 H Street, N.W., National 7409).

*b7c*  
[redacted] stated the Board of Editors was considering doing a review of the book on Soviet China which was put out by Henry Schuman, Inc., 20 East 70th Street, New York City, and [redacted] thought possibly this might be a publishing company of disrepute, and if there was anything we could tell him indicating whether this organization is a front or subversive he, of course, wants to object to the publication of any book put out by such a publishing house. [redacted] understands that our files are confidential. He stated he was leaving for his residence and asked that he not be phoned but that a note be sent to him in care of [redacted]

*b7c*  
The only direct reference we have to Henry Schuman, Inc. in Bureau files, of a public source nature is a clipping which appeared in the "Daily Worker" of November 27, 1950, to the effect that Theodore Huff had delivered his manuscript on Charles Chaplin to Henry Schuman, Inc., which book purports to be the first definitive biography on Chaplin, and proclaims that Chaplin is probably the greatest single screen attraction in the history of the movies. It is noted that Huff has been the Curator of the Museum of Modern Art Film Library and that he teaches film at New York University. The Chaplin book is to be published by Henry Schuman, Inc. in March, 1951.

*b7c*  
A suggested note to [redacted] is attached.

Attachment

100-127090

CMC

cc: Mr. Ladd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

RECORDED - 133  
INDEXED 133

100-127090-72  
APR 5 1951

*Handwritten signature*



March 29, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-3-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEW

[REDACTED]

RECORDED - 133 100 - 177090 - 72  
EX-6 Dear [REDACTED]

I have been advised of your telephone call to our Headquarters on March 28, 1951, and appreciate the nature of the inquiry you made.

As you know, the files of the FBI are confidential but I did think you would be interested in an article which appeared in the November 27, 1950, issue of the "Daily Worker," concerning the subject you had in mind. A copy of the article is attached for your information.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Ladd  
RECEIVED - MAIL ROOM

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Nease
- Gandy

MAR 30 1951  
COMM - FBI

APR 14 1951

MAR 30 5 26 PM '51  
RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 30 5 26 PM '51  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED DIRECTOR

MAR 30 5 26 PM '51

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*DR*

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-15641

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/5/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/10,16;3/8-10 12,13,30;4/2,3/</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>	CEA <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was.</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>		

*g*

*100-15641-51*

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** LOUIS F. BUDENZ, former Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary, stated he learned in about 1936 that CHAPLIN was "the equivalent of a member of the Party;" that CHAPLIN adhered to the Party, gave financial aid to the Party, and has been a member of a number of fronts. CHAPLIN reported to have met with GERHARDT EISLER at home of CLIFFORD ODETS in Los Angeles on June 29, 1946. In October, 1946 reliable informant stated CHAPLIN donated \$1,000 to Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. In 1949 SIDNEY BERNSTEIN, was., was in contact with CHAPLIN on several occasions. BERNSTEIN reliably reported to have been sent to Los Angeles by Communist Party in New York to act as liaison between Communist Party Cultural Group and Los Angeles County Communist Party. (U)

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 1259 JUP/KEN  
 REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
 DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 1-4-89

DETAILS: *ak - RNM*

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

On June 21, 1950 LOUIS F. BUDENZ, formerly Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary until he broke with the Party in October, 1945, was interviewed at New York City by Special Agent [REDACTED] and furnished the following information concerning CHAPLIN:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (100-127090) 3 Los Angeles		127090-73	RECORDED - 8
COPIES DESTROYED 1/9/59 RUSZ		CONFIDENTIAL	EX 68

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

MAY 3 1951

*(over)*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-15641

BUDENZ stated that CHAPLIN is a noted motion picture artist and part owner of United Artists.

"Very early in my membership in the Communist Party - perhaps in 1936 - I was advised first by CLARENCE HATHAWAY and then by JACK STACHEL that CHAPLIN was 'the equivalent of a member of the Party'. The occasion for this information arose in connection with a report that CHAPLIN had submitted the text of his moving picture 'Modern Times' to the Moscow Board of Censorship in Russia and that he had changed certain sections of the production to conform to their criticism. As I recall, this item appeared in the Daily Worker and that is how I came to discuss it in order to be able to explain it to certain comrades in the trade unions.

"The second occasion when I learned of CHAPLIN's adherence to the Party was in connection with a proposal that he apply for citizenship. This came about in the early 1940's and was discussed in a Politburo meeting briefly. It was stated then by BROWDER, as the consensus of opinion, that CHAPLIN should not apply for citizenship since it would raise the whole question of his being an alien, an attack on his personal life, and all sorts of things that might lead to his deportation. That advice supposedly was to be sent to WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN on the coast. (U)

"The third occasion was in connection with both the second front meeting and the action of JOAN BARRY against him. On both these occasions, DENNIS and STACHEL emphasized CHAPLIN's adherence to the Party. In the latter case, the Daily Worker was ordered to run an editorial defending CHAPLIN's private morals, that being the only occasion where any such order was given while I was with the Daily Worker. JACK STACHEL stated the reason for this order was that 'we had to defend the integrity of CHAPLIN, a Communist artist'.

"Repeatedly I have heard of his financial aid to the Communist Party, and to its fronts from ROBERT WILLIAM WEINER, LEM HARRIS, and also prominent members of the Politburo. This information was given me up to the time I left the Party.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"He has been a member of a number of fronts, however the Party was very careful when they used CHAPLIN so that he would not be under attack." (U)

b7D  
On November 13, 1950 informant [redacted] of unknown reliability, furnished information that in 1946 she was employed by a catering service which served food at various parties in the Beverly Hills area. When she was employed at these parties, she frequently made notes concerning the persons who were there, and some of these notes she still had available. She said that she has notes which reflect that on June 29, 1946 a party was held at 7942 Hillside Avenue, the residence of CLIFFORD ODETS, and that CHARLES CHAPLIN and GERHARDT EISLER were present at this party. (U)

b7C  
On June 27, 1946 GERHARDT EISLER was observed in Los Angeles by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] and he was also observed in Los Angeles on July 9, 1946 by Agent [redacted] and Special Agent [redacted]. (U)

Informant [redacted], a reliable source, in 1946 furnished information that GERHARDT EISLER was in the United States as a Comintern agent. (U)

The records of the United States District Court in New York City reflect a bench warrant was issued against EISLER on May 19, 1949 and returned non est. It orders EISLER's arrest in an indictment charging him with knowingly making to the Secretary of State of the United States, false statements in an application for an Alien Departure Permit No. 22154, with intent to induce the granting of such permit in violation of the laws of the United States. This indictment was the result of EISLER's fleeing from the United States on May 6, 1949 aboard the Polish ship "M. S. Batory". (U)

b7D  
In January, 1943 informant [redacted] a reliable source, described CLIFFORD ODETS as a long-time Communist Party member. (U)

b7C  
On November 28, 1950 [redacted] who was a member of the Communist Party in Los Angeles from 1929 until the latter part of 1936, informed Special Agent [redacted] that he recalls CLIFFORD ODETS, the playwright, as a Communist Party member in Los Angeles, and stated that ODETS was considered one of the best developed of the Party people. [redacted] stated that based on what he was told, ODETS had originally become a Party member in New York, and that the Communist Party utilized all of ODETS' writings like "Waiting for Lefty". (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-15641

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c  
b7D  
On December 3, 1943 Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] observed GREGORI KHEIFETS visit Apartment No. 25 at the Garden of Allah Apartments in Los Angeles, which they determined from the manager of this apartment building was occupied by CLIFFORD ODETS [redacted] playwright. Informant [redacted] a reliable source, stated that GREGORI KHEIFETS, former Soviet Vice-Consul in San Francisco, operated as a Soviet espionage agent in Los Angeles during 1943 and 1944. (U)

b7D  
In June, 1949, informant [redacted] a reliable source, furnished information that during the latter part of October, 1946, CHARLES S. CHAPLIN, 1085 Summit Drive, Beverly Hills, California, contributed \$1,000 to the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. (U)

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, former Communist Party national functionary, stated on page 219 of his book "Men Without Faces", regarding the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions that, "This was one of the most potent of the Communist fronts -- The committee was created in my office in the Daily Worker and largely at my instigation." BUDENZ further stated in this book on page 221, ".....The Communist writers, scientists, and professionals ... obtained the cooperation of scores of non-Communists in this Red-controlled organization." (U)

b7D  
Informant [redacted] of unknown reliability, reported in August, 1950 that CHARLIE CHAPLIN is a member of the Independent Progressive Party and attends meetings of this group. (U)

b1  
[redacted] (C)

The Los Angeles Mirror, a daily newspaper, in its issue of September 10, 1949, contained an article stating that a group of 382 film professional people, who feel that the House Un-American Activities Committee has instigated a plan of movie censorship, will take its complaint to the United States Supreme Court and will file a brief with the high court. The article stated that this information was furnished by the attorneys of the group, and the article

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

stated that among others the name of CHARLES CHAPLIN was attached to the document. The article further stated that the brief is in support of the appeals of film writer JOHN HOWARD LAWSON and DALTON TRUMBO from their conviction of contempt of Congress. (U)

b7D  
In December, 1949 informant [redacted] a Governmental agency of the United States, furnished information that CHARLES CHAPLIN received from Moscow, Russia through the Progressive Book Shop, 1806 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, three books entitled as follows: "Planned Economy in Czechoslovak", "The Czechoslovakian Public Health Service", and "The Czechoslovakian Five-Year Plan". (U)

According to the informant, these books were designated to CHAPLIN at his studios at 1416 North La Brea, Los Angeles. (U)

b1  
[redacted] (C)

b1  
[redacted] (C)

b7D  
Informant [redacted] a reliable source, furnished information in June, 1950 that in connection with the departure of

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

eight members of the "Hollywood 10" for Washington, D.C. on June 18, 1950, he learned that CHARLES CHAPLIN was scheduled to be the main speaker at a rally to be held at the airport at the time of departure. However, the informant learned that prior to the rally, CHARLES CHAPLIN decided not to make the principal address as planned. The informant did not know the details surrounding CHAPLIN's withdrawal but stated persons interested in this rally suspected CHAPLIN of "ducking out", and the same individuals commented that, "We will have to live without him." (U)

b7D  
Informant [redacted] of unknown reliability, in August, 1950 stated that several years ago a meeting was held at the home of HANNS EISLER at Malibu Beach with the nephew of EDWARD BENES, who was then the Czechoslovakian Consul at San Francisco; that at this meeting asylum was promised to EISLER and his wife if they could get out of the United States. Informant stated that CHARLES CHAPLIN was also at this meeting and promised to do what he could to assist. Information regarding CHAPLIN's assistance in obtaining a Czechoslovakian passport for HANNS EISLER has previously been set out in this investigation. (U)

The "Hollywood Reporter", a motion picture trade paper, in its issue of March 9, 1950, contains an article which states, "Charlie Chaplin says: 'As a believer in "One World", I wish to respectfully state that my position is unaltered and that I have not made any request, officially or unofficially, for citizenship. These rumors and lies are part of a conspiracy instigated by my enemies to try and embarrass me.'" (U)

b7D  
Informant [redacted] a reliable source, stated that she had learned in February, 1951 from a representative of the National Association of Mexican-Americans, also known as ANMA, that CHARLES CHAPLIN had contributed sums of money for ANMA and other progressive organizations. Informant [redacted] in August, 1950 stated that the Mexican Commission of the Los Angeles County Communist Party is practically inactive inasmuch as its work is presently being handled by the National Association of Mexican-Americans, also known as ANMA. (U)

b7D  
Informant [redacted] a reliable source, stated that during the summer of 1949, SIDNEY BERNSTEIN, alias Sidney Benson, on several occasions was in contact with Mr. and Mrs. CHARLIE-

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHA [redacted] regarding dinner engagements with them and regarding the use of the CHAPLINS' swimming pool for himself and his friends. (U)

b-1 [redacted]

(U)

- CLOSED -



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Bureau letter dated January 15, 1951 to the Los Angeles Office requested that this case be reopened and a report submitted, bringing the subject's activities up to date and embodying the information furnished recently by LOUIS F. BUDENZ. The [redacted] stated that the character of the case should be Security Matter - C. (U)

"Variety", a theatrical trade paper, in its issue of September 20, 1950, contained an article in which it was stated that CHARLES CHAPLIN is planning to film the greater part of his next picture "Limelight" in England, but that his plans hinge on his securing a United States State Department guarantee that he can return to this country. This permission is stated to be necessary inasmuch as CHAPLIN, who arrived in the United States in 1910, has never become a United States citizen. The article stated that CHAPLIN has been preparing the screen play of "Limelight" for well over a year. (U)

The issue of "Variety" for September 27, 1950 contains an article which states that the question of whether CHAPLIN would be able to re-enter the United States if he should go to England to make a film might not be answered until he tried to get past the American immigration officials. The article states that CHAPLIN's problem is not one for the State Department but rather for the Immigration Service, a branch of the Department of Justice. The article states that CHAPLIN is understood to be seeking a re-entry permit before leaving the United States, and that a re-entry permit is no guarantee that he will be able to re-enter since some re-entry permits have been withdrawn in the past after an alien left the United States. (U)

The issue of "Variety" for February 12, 1951 contains an article in which it is stated that the proposed plans of CHARLIE CHAPLIN to shoot the greater part of his production "Limelight" in London have been abandoned, and CHAPLIN is now preparing his film for production in the United States at his own studios. The article stated that CHAPLIN's plans to make the picture in London had hinged on approval by the U. S. Government for CHAPLIN's exit and re-entry into the United States. (U)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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b7D Informant [redacted] a reliable source, learned that a high Soviet official had stated that he wondered if CHAPLIN was actually a Communist and actually sympathetic to the Soviet Union; that the official had stated that JOSEPH STALIN admires CHAPLIN very much and believes that it would be good preparation for the Soviets if CHAPLIN would go to Russia to live permanently, and that if he did, he would be well treated. (U)

b7D Informant [redacted] a reliable source, furnished information in the summer of 1950 that RICHARD EDWARD LAUTERBACH, with aliases, was then in Hollywood, California, personally working on a biography of CHARLIE CHAPLIN, the motion picture actor. (U)

b7D Informant [redacted] of known reliability, learned that RICHARD LAUTERBACH had visited the Charlie Chaplin Motion Picture Studio, 1416 North La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles, for a brief period in the first part of June, 1950; that LAUTERBACH did not spend any time at the studio and remarked at the time that he was finishing up a book which was to be published by the Simon & Schuster Publishing Company, and that this book was to be published in about one year. (U)

The "Hollywood Reporter", a daily newspaper, in its issue of September 22, 1950 on page 2, contained a brief article which stated that RICHARD LAUTERBACH, former senior editor of "Life", who just died of polio, was working with CHARLIE CHAPLIN on the latter's biography up to the time of his, LAUTERBACH's, passing. (U)

b7c On April 27, 1950 LOUIS F. BUDENZ advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that he had heard official reports to the effect that LAUTERBACH was a Communist. BUDENZ stated that he believed that JACK STACHEL, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, USA, made the statement that LAUTERBACH was a Communist. (U)

b7D Informant [redacted] previously mentioned, advised in September, 1949 that the Hollywood Arts, Sciences and Professions Council was endeavoring to have CHAPLIN serve as an honored guest at the donors' dinner of this organization. In October of 1949 this informant learned that CHAPLIN had been contacted relative to serving as an honored guest at the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

donors' dinner and had, according to the informant, been pleased to learn that someone in Hollywood would ask him to do this, but he did not commit himself at that time to serving as an honored guest. This informant later stated that the donors' dinner was actually held on January 14, 1950 at the Beverly-Wilshire Hotel in Los Angeles. (U)

b7D Informant [redacted] in the latter part of July, 1949, learned that the Hollywood Arts, Sciences and Professions Council was endeavoring to interest CHARLIE CHAPLIN in a personal celebration for CHAPLIN, but informant did not know whether such celebration plans had been approved by CHAPLIN. (U)

The same informant in January of 1950 stated that the Hollywood Arts, Sciences and Professions Council discussed the possibility of getting CHARLIE CHAPLIN to loan his movie "Modern Times" to this organization for fund raising purposes. (U)

b1 [redacted] (C)

b7D Informant [redacted] of known reliability, stated that in October, 1949 the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship in New York indicated a desire to have CHARLES CHAPLIN present at a contemplated rally at Madison Square Gardens on December 5, 1949, to be sponsored by the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. This informant did not know whether CHAPLIN had been contacted for this purpose. (U)

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship has been declared by the Attorney General of the United States on May 27 and September 21, 1948 to be a Communist organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

b7D  
Informant [redacted] a reliable source, in June of 1949 learned that the Arts, Sciences and Professions organization in New York desired someone in Hollywood to contact CHARLES CHAPLIN, endeavoring to persuade him to attend a Bill of Rights Congress in New York City, which had been scheduled to take place in July of 1949. This informant had no further information regarding CHAPLIN in this regard. (U)

b7c  
On July 27 and 28, 1950 Attorney CHARLES A. LORING, 111 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, telephonically contacted Special Agent [redacted] and advised that he, LORING, is representing CHARLES CHAPLIN in connection with CHAPLIN's film "The Circus". LORING stated that this is a copyrighted film owned solely by CHAPLIN, and the Daily People's World, a Communist newspaper, has carried an ad for the past few days stating that there is to be a showing of this movie for the benefit of the People's World on July 28 and 29, 1950. LORING said that CHAPLIN was "burned up at the continued association of his name and films with the Communist movement", and CHAPLIN had been accused sometimes unjustly in this connection. LORING stated that this showing of CHAPLIN's picture would have been illegal, indicating that CHAPLIN had not given permission to the Daily People's World to show the picture. (U)

The Los Angeles Times newspaper for July 30, 1950 contained an article which stated that HEDDA HOPPER's column in the Times yesterday stated, "The Commie Daily People's World advertised that Charlie Chaplin's picture 'The Circus' is being shown here for their benefit. While our boys die in Korea, Chaplin's picture is making money for the loyal Commie opposition." (U)

The article continued by stating that on the previous day CHARLES A. LORING, of the legal firm of WRIGHT, WRIGHT, GREEN & WRIGHT, representing Mr. CHAPLIN, sent the Times the following telegram:

"Please be advised that the print of 'The Circus' purportedly to be shown on Friday and Saturday, July 28 and 29, 1950, was not lawfully in the possession of the proposed exhibitor and such exhibitor had no legal right to exhibit it for profit for the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

"benefit of the Daily People's World or for any other purpose.

"Prior to Thursday, July 27, 1950, Mr. Chaplin had no knowledge of such proposed exhibition of 'The Circus' for the benefit of the Daily People's World and did not at any time authorize or consent to such exhibition on ....." (U)

Informant [redacted] a United States Governmental agency which conducts security investigations, furnished information on November 2, 1948 that [redacted] who claims to have a number of confidential sources concerning Communist and Jewish activities operating in the Los Angeles area, furnished information that CHARLES CHAPLIN and [redacted] are purchasing all types of arms including revolvers, machine guns, and rifles, and storing these arms at an undisclosed address on Ventura Boulevard; that these arms are purchased by these individuals through the war surplus agencies in the Los Angeles area, and that CHAPLIN and [redacted] have six airplanes that they are presently utilizing to fly these arms and other war materials in and out of Mexico. Informant stated that [redacted] refused to give the source of his information. He said that [redacted] is extremely anti-Semitic and [redacted] feelings toward [redacted] and CHAPLIN may have caused him to make these statements. [redacted] according to the informant, is not considered to be very reliable in connection with the furnishing of the above information, and other reports made by [redacted] regarding stories of arms have been investigated with negative results. (U)

On December 14, 1948 [redacted] Los Angeles, appeared at the Los Angeles Office and advised that he had heard that some guns and ammunition entered this country on boats from the Pacific Islands in December, 1948, and were subsequently unloaded and stored at a surplus company owned and operated by CHARLES CHAPLIN and [redacted] on Ventura Boulevard near Lankershim Boulevard, North Hollywood, California, and that this material was supposedly destined for use by [redacted] [redacted] refused to give information about the persons from whom he heard this except to say that it was a friend of his who lived near Ventura Boulevard on Lankershim Boulevard. (U)

Regarding [redacted] [redacted] of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office stated that [redacted] had

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-15641

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

reported similar matters to the Sheriff's Office within the past six months but had not been able to produce any definite information concerning [redacted] letter. (U)

*b7c*  
On February 16, 1951 <sup>MRS. MRS</sup> [redacted] and his former wife, [redacted], who were Communist Party members in Hollywood from 1934 to 1939, were interviewed by Special Agent [redacted]. [redacted] stated that she was assigned the duty of collecting [redacted] for the Communist Party from certain persons in Hollywood whose names she had been furnished. She stated that the name of CHARLES CHAPLIN was not on this list of names. Neither [redacted] nor his former wife could furnish any information regarding CHAPLIN which would link him with membership in the Communist Party. (U)

The trade paper "Variety", in its issue of December 8, 1950, contained an article bearing New York date line of December 7, which stated that the value of CHARLIE CHAPLIN's pictures on telestations and theatres has been threatened by protests of the New Jersey State Unit of the Catholic War Veterans, which already has succeeded in obtaining cancellation of a series of the comic's early reels on New York television station WPIX; that this station, following a telecast of a CHAPLIN short, decided to cancel the series after complaints had been received by JOSEPH FEHRENBACH, Commander of New Jersey's Hudson County Department of the Catholic War Veterans. FEHRENBACH asserted that CHAPLIN seems aligned with Communist organizations; that CHAPLIN has not denied this, and thus is not entitled to the right to appear before the American public. (U)

*b7c*  
On September 18, 1950 [redacted] California, advised Special Agent [redacted] that his brother, [redacted] California, who is a [redacted] has come in contact with a man from Argentina who has stated that he has been in contact with CHARLES CHAPLIN, the motion picture actor and producer. This man from Argentina stated that on one occasion CHAPLIN said that he, CHAPLIN, is afraid of conditions in the United States and might be placed in a concentration camp because of his political sympathies. CHAPLIN on that occasion remarked that he is making plans to go to Argentina to produce motion pictures. (U)

The Daily People's World, a West Coast Communist Party newspaper, in an article in a column entitled "Hollywood [redacted] *b7c*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

"Beat", appearing in the issue for December 1949, stated that in the previous week CHAPLIN's movie "City Lights" had been shown for the benefit of the Westland School, and that after the showing, at which CHAPLIN was present, CHAPLIN received a tremendous ovation. The article continued by stating, "It was more than an ovation for one of America's greatest motion pictures, it was more than a tribute to the only genius of the English language cinema, to a timeless pantomimist who will be remembered for his artistry as long as man has memory. It was a political demonstration, too, of solidarity with a man whose every screen appearance has been a brilliant attack upon a dying society. This was an audience that understood his barbed darts at pompous politicians, at wealthy maniacs, alternately maudlin and ruthless, at the stupidities of the police, at the heartlessness of a society that has no place for the little man, except in the hearts of his fellows." (U)

The article then went on to state that the Westland School, a progressive school for children, is soon to be permitted to revive for one evening only "Modern Times" (a CHAPLIN picture). (U)

b7c Informant [redacted] a reliable source, in December, 1950 stated that he had learned that CHARLES CHAPLIN and his wife were interested in the Westland School, and that all progressive children are sent there if their people can afford it. (U)

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1; b7c; b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
FBIHQ 100-127090-73, p. 15, 16

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



January 4, 1952

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

Transmitted herewith is one [redacted] relating to the individual inquired about. (100-127090)

In addition, you are referred to the report furnished the Central Office of your service in answer to a name check request dated 1/19/51 relating to the individual inquired about. (39-0-42352)

The above information is furnished for your confidential use only, and is not to be distributed outside of your service. This is the result of an FBI file check only, and is not to be considered as a clearance or nonclearance of the individual involved.

Attachment

Original to INS, Los Angeles

[redacted] :lmp

*67c*

*6/16/52*

*further*  
Investigation Conducted by FBI Pertinent to your inquiry. This is the result of a request for an FBI file check only and is not to be considered as a clearance.

You are requested to advise the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., of action taken by your agency concerning this individual based on the above information.

*Per. tel. rep. from [redacted] on 6/11/52*  
*Quarrio T. [redacted] J.P.F.*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEA

RECORDED - 129

INDEXED - 129

EX-23

JAN 16 1952

*100-127090-74*

*3191*  
63 JAN 24 1952.

*(5) mch*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Charles Spencer Chaplin - January 1952*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-127090)  
 FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (100-15641)  
 SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER (C) - TM, was  
 SECURITY MATTER -

DATE: January 29, 1952

Card U.T.D.

2-19-52

2-1  
1 P 10-1

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

G.I.R.-6

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME Make title read: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, wa

ALIASES , Thonstein

NATIVE BORN NATURALIZED ALIEN

COMMUNIST SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify)

TAB FOR DETCOM TAB FOR COMSAB RACE SEX

DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List)

RESIDENCE ADDRESS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JTP/KEP

RECORDED - 41  
FEB 4 1952

EX-3

EX-3

100-127090-75

Handwritten initials and signatures

51 FEB 20 1952

SAC, Los Angeles (100-15641)

July 8, 1952

Director, FBI (100-127090)

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN  
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEH

*Handwritten initials*

Information has been received at the Bureau from a reliable source that the subject has recently applied for a re-entry permit. Subject has made this inquiry to ascertain if he would be allowed to return to this country if he went abroad.

United States State Department officials have advised subject that he may be given a re-entry permit; however, this permit gives no guarantee that he will be allowed to return to the U.S. once he leaves. Los Angeles is requested to be on the alert for any information that may indicate subject is contemplating a trip abroad. Any information concerning the subject and his activities in relation to moving or taking a trip should be forwarded to the Bureau immediately.

*Handwritten initials*

ON YELLOW ONLY: State Dept. has advised subject applied for re-entry permit. Presently still in this country. LA To advise any activities. Liaison Unit, Bureau, in touch with State & INS.

*Handwritten notes and initials*

RECORDED -19

100-127090-76

EX-130

JUL 14 1952

62

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
F B I  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
JUL 9 10 31 AM '52

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI  
JUL 9 1952  
MAILED 18  
63 JUL 2 1952

*Handwritten signature*

CHARLES SPENCER Chaplin  
CHARLIE CHAPLIN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUN 12 1952

DIVISION OF SECURITY

~~S/PFC~~  
S/PFC  
6-13-52  
Charlie Chaplin

*B. J. [Signature]*

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION  
RECEIVED

I have a vague recollection  
the FBI was interested in the  
above and several other Hollywood  
characters a few months ago  
— but I can't locate any  
such file x

At any rate Charlie has  
now applied for a Reentry  
Permit (the FBI can get details  
from INS)

100-127090 - ✓

NOT RECORDED  
13

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
b-7c

File

100 - 127090

60 JUL 10 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEH

E.I.R. 12

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-127090)  
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-15641)  
SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN  
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: JULY 23, 1952

*CNE*

*R 2-1*

Rebulet 7/8/52.

The Daily Variety, a Hollywood trade paper, in its issue of March 19, 1952, contained the following squib: "CHARLIE CHAPLIN plans to become a citizen of the USA. Actually he's wanted to for many years but felt that it would look like he was yielding to pressure. Now that the press and public seem to like him again (viz Life last week), and 'Limelight' seems a winner, he's eager."

The Hollywood Reporter, a trade paper, in the issue of April 16, 1952, contained the following squib: "CHARLIE CHAPLIN is prepping an announcement attacking STALIN."

The Daily Variety in the issue of May 19, 1952, contained the following squib: "CHARLIE CHAPLIN has his return visa and he's all set for Europe in September for the preems of 'Limelight' in London and Paris. OONA goes along but the kids stay behind in Beverly."

On July 10, 1952, Mr. JACK PRICE of the local Immigration and Naturalization Service office stated that no re-entry permit has been issued to CHAPLIN.

*pk* [redacted] pml

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

*G. I. R. 62*

*at*

RECORDED - 6

*100-127090-77*

JUL 30 1952

EX - 69

*[Handwritten initials]*

390  
1952

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. V. P. Keay *JK*  
 FROM : John E. Foley *JEFo*  
 SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

DATE: August 25, 1952

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Mario T. Noto of the Immigration and Naturalization Service telephonically contacted Supervisor John E. Foley to advise that a re-entry permit had been issued to the above-named individual on July 16, 1952. Mr. Noto stated that Charles Spencer Chaplin intended to depart from New York City for England about September 4, 1952. He subsequently advised that Chaplin apparently had made some change in his plans and now expects to depart from New York City by way of the "Queen Mary" about September 10, 1952, apparently on a world cruise. According to Mr. Noto, it appears to be Chaplin's intent to return to the United States by way of San Francisco after touching the Orient.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. This is for informational purposes only.

JEFo:jmr *me*

*16*

*1262*

*127090-78*

*G.I.R.-3*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JJP/KEH

RECORDED - 44

*127090-78*

AUG 28 1952

EX-121

*en*

*127090-78*

SAC, Los Angeles (100-15641)

September 16, 1952

RECORDED - 58

Director, FBI (100-127090)-78

CHARLES SPFF... APLIN  
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JJP/KW

Rebulet dated July 8, 1952, and urlet dated  
July 23, 1952.

Immigration and Naturalization Service,  
Washington, D. C., confidentially advised that a re-  
entry permit had been issued to the above-named in-  
dividual on July 16, 1952. It was indicated that  
Chaplin expected to depart from New York City on the  
Queen Mary about September 10, 1952, apparently on a  
world cruise, and that it was Chaplin's intention to  
return to the United States by way of San Francisco,  
after visiting the Orient.

It is requested that you advise the Bureau  
by letter any information you are able to ascertain  
concerning the subject's tour abroad. You are also  
instructed to prepare a summary report suitable for  
dissemination in the immediate future.

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

Subject on Security Index. INS has advised that even  
though he was given a re-entry permit, this permit  
gives no guarantee he will be allowed to return to the  
United States.

*brc* [redacted] *jd*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Rohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : *MS* D. M. LADD

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: September 18, 1952

FROM : A. H. Belmont *AB*

SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN  
CHARLIE CHAPLIN

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY: *259 JSP/KEH*  
REASON FOR EXTENSION: *FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2-2,3*  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION: *4-4-89*

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Mohr
- Tele. Rm.
- Hesse
- Gandy

PURPOSE:

To furnish to the Attorney General a summary of information in Bureau files concerning Charles Spencer Chaplin.

BACKGROUND:

By memorandum for Mr. Tolson, Mr. Ladd and Mr. Nichols dated September 11, 1952, the Director stated that on September 9, 1952, he had had a discussion with the Attorney General during which discussion the Attorney General stated that he was considering taking steps to prevent the re-entry into this country of Charlie Chaplin. The Attorney General had stated that Chaplin and his wife were taking a tour of the world and would return to the United States sometime in the Spring, at San Francisco, California, and he had in mind taking steps which would prevent his re-entry into the United States because of moral turpitude. (U)

In his memorandum the Director stated "I wish that you would immediately prepare a memorandum of all information in our files concerning Charlie Chaplin and that it be transmitted to the Attorney General for his information." (U)

SCOPE OF SEARCH:

In October, 1947, a complete memorandum of information in Bureau files concerning Chaplin was prepared for the Immigration and Naturalization Service. In January, 1950, all references to Chaplin subsequent to October, 1947, were reviewed and it was noted that no new and pertinent information was contained in those references which was not also in the Chaplin main files. (U)

In the preparation of this memorandum, all references to Chaplin since January, 1950, were reviewed, in addition to the two main files involving Charles Spencer Chaplin (31-68496 and 100-127090).

Attachment

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100-127090-79  
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Memo to Mr. D. M. Ladd  
from A. H. Belmont

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BUREAU INVESTIGATIONS:

A White Slave Traffic Act investigation concerning Chaplin was instituted by the Los Angeles Office on August 17, 1943, based on allegations that Chaplin had induced one Joan Berry to travel from Los Angeles, California, to New York City and return in October, 1942, for immoral purposes. The investigation resulted in the indictment of Chaplin, but at a trial in Los Angeles, California, he was acquitted on April 4, 1944. (31-68496) (U)

On February 10, 1944, Chaplin and other individuals were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury for allegedly conspiring to violate the civil liberties of Joan Berry. However, on May 15, 1944, Federal Judge J.F.T. O'Connor dismissed the charges against Chaplin when he was advised by United States Attorney Charles Carr that Carr had received written instructions from the Department of Justice to dismiss these charges. (31-68496) (U)

A security-type investigation was instituted concerning Chaplin by the Los Angeles Office on September 9, 1946, after a request from the Bureau that the Los Angeles Office review all references pertaining to Chaplin and give consideration to recommending the preparation of a Security Index Card. The investigation developed information concerning Chaplin's contacts with Soviet officials, his activities in connection with Communist-front groups, and his association with persons known to be sympathetic to Communism. On December 29, 1949, the Department was advised, pursuant to their request, that from a review of Bureau files it had been determined that there were no witnesses available for use in a trial who could offer testimony that Chaplin was or had been a member of the Communist Party, or that he had contributed funds to the Communist Party. Los Angeles report dated April 5, 1951, placed the investigation in a closed status. Chaplin's name is included on the Security Index. (100-127090) (U)

SUMMARY OF  
INFORMATION BEING FURNISHED TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:

Chaplin was born in London, England, on April 16, 1889, and first came to the United States in 1910. He has resided in the United States since that time, but has never become a citizen.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memo to Mr. D. M. Ladd  
from A. H. Belmont

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1 [REDACTED] (C)

As early as 1923, Chaplin received favorable mention in "Pravda," the official organ of the Communist Party in Russia. His name has been frequently mentioned in connection with Communist activities since that time, but no proof has been developed to reflect actual membership in or contributions to the Communist Party. His associates have included known Communist Party members. He has been connected with or supported sixteen cited organizations and publications. He was active in defense of Hanns Eisler during the deportation proceedings against Eisler in 1948. (U)

In 1943, Chaplin was indicted for violation of the White Slave Traffic Act. He was acquitted on April 4, 1944. In February, 1944, he was indicted for conspiring to violate the civil liberties of Joan Berry, who had been the victim in the White Slave Traffic Act case, but the indictment was dismissed at the direction of the Department on May 15, 1944. (U)

b1 [REDACTED] (C)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the attached memorandum be forwarded to the Attorney General. (U)

V. J. 9/19

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd  
FROM : A. H. Belmont  
SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

DATE: September 16, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JSP/KEH

Tolson	✓
Ladd	✓
Clegg	
Glavin	
Rosen	✓
Tracy	✓
Harbo	
Belmont	
Loar	
Tele. Room	
Nease	
Gandy	

PURPOSE:

To advise you of the status of a memorandum being prepared for the Attorney General relative to Chaplin.

BACKGROUND:

By memorandum for Mr. Tolson, Mr. Ladd and Mr. Nichols dated September 11, 1952, the Director stated that on September 9, 1952, he had had a discussion with the Attorney General during which discussion the Attorney General stated that he was considering taking steps to prevent the re-entry into this country of Charlie Chaplin. The Attorney General had stated that Chaplin and his wife were taking a tour of the world and would return to the United States sometime in the Spring, at San Francisco, California, and he had in mind taking steps which would prevent his re-entry into the United States because of moral turpitude.

In his memorandum the Director stated "I wish that you would immediately prepare a memorandum of all information in our files concerning Charlie Chaplin and that it be transmitted to the Attorney General for his information."

SCOPE OF SEARCH:

In the preparation of the memorandum for the Attorney General it was noted that in October, 1947, a complete memorandum of information in Bureau files relative to Chaplin was prepared for the Immigration and Naturalization Service. In January, 1950, all references relative to Chaplin from the time of the above-mentioned memorandum were reviewed and it was noted that no new and pertinent information was contained in those references which did not appear in the main files of Chaplin.

In the preparation of the memorandum for the Attorney General all references to Chaplin since January, 1950, (approximately 200 references) are being reviewed. In addition to the above-mentioned 200 references the two main files involving Charles Spencer Chaplin (31-68496 and 100-127090) are also being reviewed.

G. I. R. 12

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Memo to Mr. Ladd from Mr. Belmont  
RE: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

ACTION BEING TAKEN

This request was received on the afternoon of Friday September 12, 1952, and the search for all references on Chaplin since January, 1950, was immediately made. Two Agent Supervisors have been reviewing these references. The seven volume White Slave Traffic Act main file and the six volume security type main file are both in a closed status and are in the process of being reviewed. Many items appearing in the October, 1947, summary memorandum must be checked with the original reference in order to properly disseminate the information at this time. Three additional Agent Supervisors are now assisting in the preparation of the summary for the Attorney General. It is planned that this summary will be completed on Thursday September 18, 1952.

WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC ACT AND CIVIL LIBERTIES INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING CHAPLIN:

The White Slave Traffic Act main file which concerns the 1944 prosecution of Chaplin under this Act is summarized below for your information. This prosecution involved Chaplin's activities with one Joan Berry in 1942, 1943 and 1944.

It was reported that Chaplin authorized his studio to obtain railroad tickets for the transportation of Joan Berry and her mother to New York, leaving Los Angeles, California, on October 2, 1942, via the Santa Fe Railway. He left for New York himself on October 12, 1942. Chaplin took Berry to dinner in New York several times following his appearance in New York on October 16, 1942, at the Artists Front to Win the War Rally. Thereafter, Berry returned to the Waldorf Astoria apartment of Chaplin, where the alleged immoral acts took place. The following day Chaplin gave Berry \$300 to return to Los Angeles, California. She left for Los Angeles on October 28, 1942. Between the time she returned to Los Angeles and January, 1943, she allegedly had numerous trysts with Chaplin. On February 10, 1944, the Federal Grand Jury in Los Angeles returned a true bill of indictment against Chaplin, charging him with violation of the Mann Act in two counts. The first count charged him with transporting Berry to New York, and the second count charged him with transporting her from New York to Los Angeles. He was tried in Los Angeles, the trial commencing on March 21, 1944, and ending April 4, 1944, at which time he was acquitted.

Memo to Mr. Ladd from Mr. Belmont  
RE: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

On February 10, 1944, a Federal Grand Jury at Los Angeles returned three indictments against Chaplin charging him and others with violations of Title 18, Section 51, 52 and 58, United States Code, for conspiring to violate the civil liberties of Joan Berry. The indictments were based on the activities of the subjects subsequent to the arrest of Berry on January 1, 1943, by the Beverly Hills Police Department through the person of Claude R. Marple. Thereafter, Robert Arden, admittedly acting for Chaplin, appeared before Captain W. W. White of the Beverly Hills Police Department with the request that Judge Charles J. Griffen send Berry out of California. On January 2, 1943, Berry was sentenced to 90 days by Griffen. The sentence was suspended on the condition that she leave Beverly Hills and pay her hotel bills. Judge Griffen had been advised by Arden that Chaplin would pay the bills and her transportation to New York. Thereafter, on January 5, 1943, Captain White escorted Berry to the train. Berry returned to California in April, 1943, and visited Chaplin's home on May 7, 1943, allegedly to advise him that she was pregnant by him. At that time Tim Durant, close friend of Chaplin, reportedly called the Beverly Hills Police Department and had her rearrested. The following day Judge Griffen sentenced Berry to thirty days in jail. On May 11, 1943, Durant, working in the interests of Chaplin, reportedly had one Minna Wallis obtain the services of Judge Cecil D. Holland and was instrumental in getting Berry out of jail with the original idea of putting her in a sanitarium and thereafter sending her out of the state.

On May 15, 1944, Federal Judge J. F. T. O'Connor dismissed the charges against Chaplin when he was advised by United States Attorney Charles Carr that Carr had received written instructions from the Department of Justice to dismiss these charges.

On June 3, 1943, a suit was filed in the State Court in Los Angeles by Gertrude E. Berry, mother of Joan Berry, on behalf of Joan Berry's unborn child, seeking to obtain money from Chaplin for the support of this child. The child was born on December 23, 1943.

The Washington Post for August 4, 1945, said that the Los Angeles Court had declared that Chaplin was the father of the Berry child.

Memo to Mr. Ladd from Mr. Belmont  
Re: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

The Washington News, Washington, D. C., on April 9, 1945, said that Chaplin had been ordered to pay \$75 a week for the support of the Berry child and \$5,000 attorney fees. (31-68496)

ACTION:

None. For your information.

See that all is included  
in memo to G. J.  
H,

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES

September 18, 1952

Director, FBI

ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF Classification  
DATE 4/5/79 653/RLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, also known as  
CHARLIE CHAPLIN

There is attached hereto, for your information, a  
summary of information in the files of this Bureau concerning  
Charles Spencer Chaplin. (U)

It is noted that two investigations concerning Chaplin  
have been conducted by the FBI. A White Slave Traffic Act  
investigation was conducted in 1943 and 1944 and a Security-type  
investigation was initiated in 1946. Both of these investigations  
are currently in a closed status and have been summarized in the  
attached memorandum. Copies of pertinent reports of the White  
Slave Traffic Act investigation and copies of pertinent reports  
of the Security-type investigation have been furnished to the  
Records Administration Branch of the Department of Justice. (U)

[REDACTED]

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FROM FBI  
BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRCC)  
DATE: 5-19-80 DRK/ack (3302)

Attachment

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EXTENDED BY 1259 JJP/KEH  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 2,3  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 1-4-89

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~~CLASSIFIED INFORMATION ENCLOSED~~

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

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September 18, 1952

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN~~ - SUMMARY  
also known as  
CHARLIE CHAPLIN

CLASS. & EXT. BY 1259 JJP/KEH  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4. 2. 2.3  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-4-89

BACKGROUND:

Charles Spencer Chaplin was born in London, England, on April 16, 1889. Both of his parents were in the theatrical business. He was educated in public schools in London, England. He married Mildred Harris in London, England, and was married the second time to Lita Grey. Of this marriage he has two children, Charles Spencer Chaplin, Jr., and Sydney. Chaplin married his third wife, Paulette Goddard, the movie actress, and was divorced from her in 1942. He married his fourth wife, Oona O'Neill, June 16, 1949. Of this marriage he has four children, Geraldine, Michael, Josephine and Victoria. He has been identified with the theater since he was seven years of age. He came to the United States with a vaudeville act in 1910, thereafter appearing in numerous motion pictures. He later became a producer in Hollywood, California, starring in and directing productions of his own creation. He is now playing in and producing his own pictures which are distributed by the United Artists Corporation of which he is a founder member. He is a member of the Societe des Beaux Arts in Paris, France. He was decorated with the Chevalier Legion of Honor in France. He is a member of the following clubs: Lambs in New York and Tuna in Catalina Island, California. His business address is the Charles Chaplin Studios, 1416 North La Brea Avenue, Hollywood, California. (U)

In a sworn application for a re-entry permit No. 45084, dated February 26, 1948, at Los Angeles, California, Chaplin stated that he was a citizen of Great Britain by birth and was travelling on a passport issued by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on February 17, 1948, which was valid until February 17, 1953. (U)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING CHAPLIN:

This Bureau, in 1943, received information concerning Chaplin which indicated his possible violation of the White

ORIGINAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL

and [redacted] fjb/dmc/mkj/ing/jnw

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

INDEXED 161 ENCLOSURE 100-127090-81

*[Handwritten signatures and initials: JON, AP, VPK]*



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Slave Traffic Act. An investigation disclosed that Chaplin authorized his studio to obtain railroad tickets for the transporta Joan Berry and her mother to New York, leaving Los Angeles, California, on October 8, 1942, via the Santa Fe Railway. He left for New York himself on October 12, 1942. Chaplin took Berry to dinner in New York several times following his appearance in New York on October 16, 1942, at the Front to Win the War Rally. Thereafter, Berry retur. the Waldorf Astoria apartment of Chaplin, where alleged immoral acts took place. The following day Chaplin gave Berry \$300 to return to Los Angeles, California. She left for Los Angeles on October 28, 1942. Between the time she returned to Los Angeles and January, 1943, she allegedly had numerous trysts with Chaplin. (U)

On February 10, 1944, the Federal Grand Jury in Los Angeles returned a true bill of indictment against Chaplin, charging him with violation of the Mann Act in two counts. The first count charged him with transporting Berry to New York, and the second count charged him with transporting her from New York to Los Angeles. He was tried in Los Angeles, the trial commencing on March 21, 1944, and ending April 4, 1944, at which time he was acquitted. (U)

On February 10, 1944, a Federal Grand Jury at Los Angeles returned three indictments against Chaplin charging him and others with violations of Title 18, Section 51, 52 and 58, United States Code, for conspiring to violate the civil liberties of Joan Berry. The indictments were based on the activities of the subjects subsequent to the arrest of Berry on January 1, 1943, by the Beverly Hills Police Department through the person of Claude R. Marple. Thereafter, Robert Arden, admittedly acting for Chaplin, appeared before Captain W. W. White of the Beverly Hills Police Department with the request that Judge Charles J. Griffen send Berry out of California. On January 2, 1943, Berry was sentenced to 90 days by Griffen. The sentence was suspended on the condition that she leave Beverly Hills and pay her hotel bills. Judge Griffen had been advised by Arden that Chaplin would pay the bills and her transportation to New York. Thereafter, on January 5, 1943, Captain White escorted Berry to the train. Berry returned to California in April, 1943, and visited Chaplin's home on May 7, 1943, allegedly to advise him that she was pregnant by him. At that time Tim Durant, close friend of Chaplin, reportedly called the Beverly Hills Police Department and had her rearrested. The following day Judge

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

Griffen sentenced Berry to thirty days in jail. On May 11, 1943, Durant, working in the interests of Chaplin, reportedly had one Minna Wallis obtain the services of Judge Cecil D. Holland and was instrumental in getting Berry out of jail with the original idea of putting her in a sanitarium and thereafter sending her out of the state. (U)

On May 15, 1944, Federal Judge J. F. T. O'Connor dismissed the charges against [redacted] when he was advised by United States Attorney Charles Carr that Carr had received written instructions from the Department of Justice to dismiss these charges. (U)

On June 3, 1943, a suit was filed in the State Court in Los Angeles by Gertrude E. Berry, mother of Joan Berry, on behalf of Joan Berry's unborn child, seeking to obtain money from Chaplin for the support of this child. The child was born on December 23, 1943. (U)

"The Washington Post" for August 4, 1945, said that the Los Angeles Court had declared that Chaplin was the father of the Berry child. (U)

"The Washington News," Washington, D. C., on April 9, 1945, said that Chaplin had been ordered to pay \$75 a week for the support of the Berry child and \$5,000 attorney fees. (31-68496) (U)

In 1946, this Bureau instituted a security-type investigation regarding Chaplin. Included in the summary hereinafter are the pertinent facts obtained in the investigation. (U)

[redacted] (c) (U)

The "Los Angeles Times," April 18, 1939, in an article entitled "Russians Honor Chaplin on Birthday" reported that Soviet newspapers stressed the social significance of Chaplin's art in connection with the celebration of his 50th birthday and that Director Sergei Eisenstein and 48 representatives of the Soviet film industry sent a message of congratulations to Hollywood. (100-127090-46, p. 5) (U)

b1 [redacted]

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b-1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
FBIHQ 100-127090-81, p. 4

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The column "Little Old New York" by Ed Sullivan as carried in the "Times-Herald," Washington, D. C., for April 6, 1944, referring to Chaplin's trial under the White Slave Traffic Act, included the following statements: "Had Chaplin lost his case, and had he been ordered deported, the Russian consul was authorized to turn over a Soviet plane to take the Chaplins to Moscow!...The offer was made by the Russian consul on the Coast when the Chaplin trial on Mann Act charges started...He doesn't plan to visit Russia until after the war...He and Oona are studying Russian, as I reported sometime ago." (31-68496-A; 65-33716-31, p. 22) (U)

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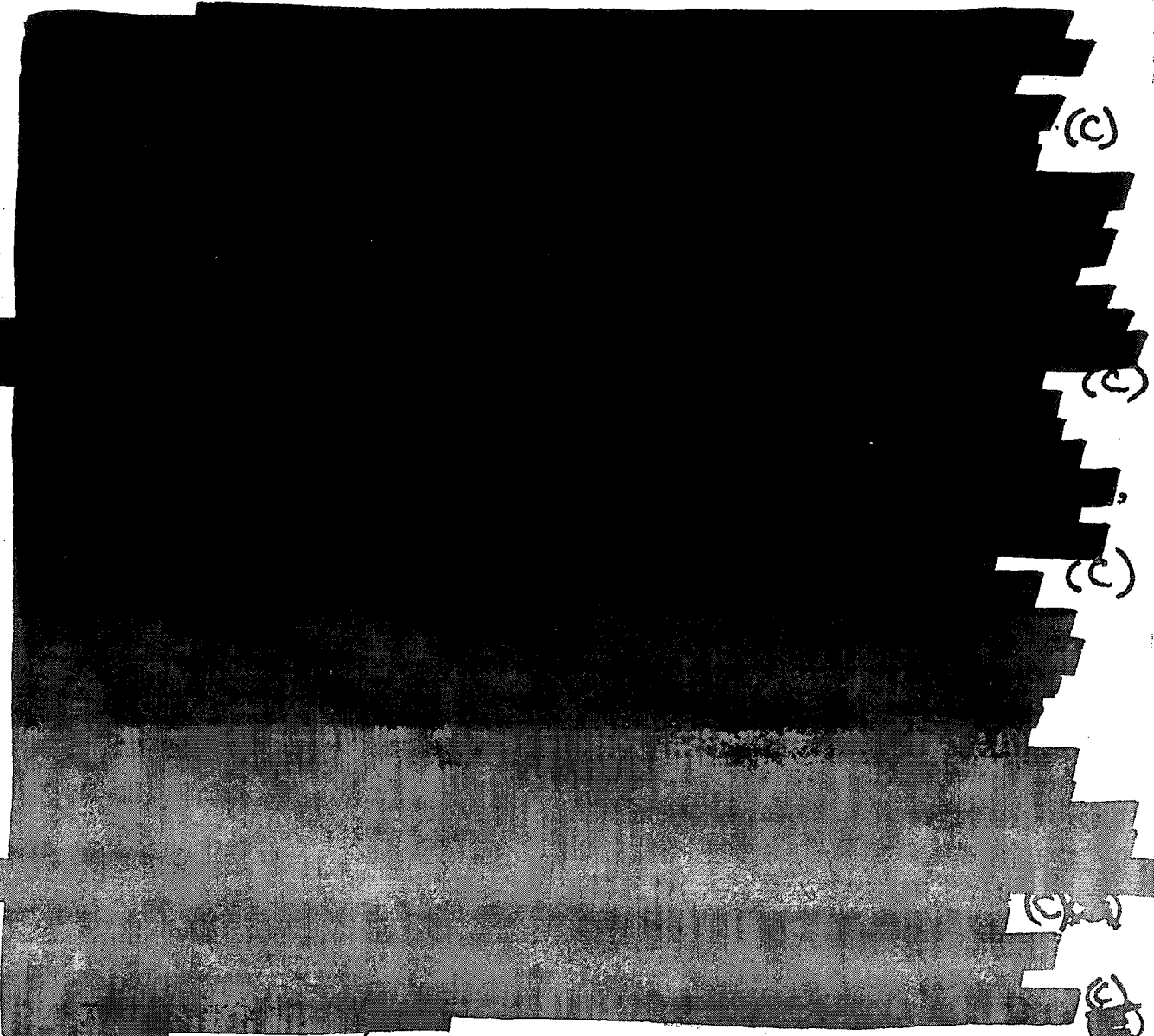
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Charles Chaplin, when interviewed under oath on April 17, 1948, by Examining Inspector John P. Boyd, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Los Angeles admitted visits to the Russian Consulate in Los Angeles about three times, entertaining consular officials of various countries, friendship with the "Russian Consulate, Thomas Tomasoff," and sending felicitations to the Soviet government in connection with the Moscow-Chaplin Festival. He denied dining at the Consulate, and any antagonism against Russia. (ibid-46; D/R 9-15-50, INS 1-23-51)

b-1



(c)

(U)

ALLEGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND ASSOCIATION WITH KNOWN COMMUNISTS

On August 14, 1928, a reliable informant advised that he had received information from an unidentified source that during William Z. Foster's visit to Los Angeles, California (date not given), a reception was given Foster by Charlie Chaplin which was attended by many of the "Parlor Bolsheviks." The informant continued that during this reception the great importance of motion pictures, with their educational and propaganda appeal for the cause of the labor movement, was discussed. Several instances were mentioned whereby radical ideas had been or were going to be included in motion pictures as well as legitimate plays. (100-127090-XI; unidentified source; information furnished to Agents of the Los Angeles Office) (U)

The official Moscow publication "Pravda" dated January 30, 1928, printed an enthusiastic tribute to Chaplin as a Communist and friend of humanity in connection with the first exhibition of a Chaplin film in Russia. The publication praised "Comrade Charlie" as one of those whose heart was on the right side, and stated that, according to the most recent reports from America, Chaplin had joined the Communist Party. (61-20-67, page 52; original publication "Pravda" contained in Congressional Library) (U)

A reliable source of information advised that he was informed by an unidentified source that on December 14, 1928, Chaplin was identified as being a member of the "Severance Club," whose membership consisted of wealthy radicals of the "Parlor Bolshevik" type. According to this source, the above group at its meetings applauded Russia and the Red Flag, and made extremely radical statements. (61-1499-2, pg. 7; unidentified source of Los Angeles Office) (U)

The April 18, 1939, issue of the "Los Angeles Times," carried an article captioned "Russians Honor Chaplin on Birthday." The article stated that Soviet newspapers had stressed the social significance of Charlie Chaplin in connection with the celebration of his fiftieth birthday. Street posters in Moscow advertised a lecture on Chaplin. The article further stated that forty-eight representatives of the Soviet film industry, including Sergel Eisenstein, had sent a message of congratulations to Hollywood. (100-127090-46, pg. 5) (U)

A source of information who has in the past furnished both reliable and unreliable information advised on January 15, 1941, that in a number of reviews made of Chaplin's then current picture, "The Great Dictator," it was pointed out that the closing speech in the production was nothing more than subtle Communist propaganda. (61-7566-2197, pg. 2; Informant [redacted]) (U)

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c  
On June 19, 1942, another Government agency which conducts intelligence investigations advised that one [redacted] had stated on one occasion that he, [redacted] was a registered Communist. [redacted] allegedly stated "You take that guy Charlie Chaplin. He is a real guy. He is a member of the Party. Only a couple of weeks ago he gave a speech at a Communist meeting in San Francisco." No further information concerning this meeting is available. (100-137829-3192; source, G-2)

b7D  
On August 6, 1942, a source of known reliability advised that never in the history of the Communist Party had the hidden intellectual membership "thrown all caution to the wind and come out in the open for the very things that the Party is demanding." The informant furnished the names of numerous individuals in the above intellectual group, including Charlie Chaplin. (100-3-45; source, [redacted] not paid, reliable) (U)

b1  
The October 18, 1942, issue of the "New York Herald Tribune," quoted Chaplin as saying that he was not concerned with the spread of Communism after the war as he could live on \$25,000 a year. (61-6211-210, pg. 2) (U)

b1  
The December 21, 1942, issue of the "Daily Worker" carried a column by Sender Garlin wherein he stated that the most simple way to compile the "Honor Roll of 1942" would be to list individuals attacked by Westbrook Pegler. The article continued that on such a list should appear the name of Charlie Chaplin and others. The article attacked Pegler for his derogatory remarks concerning Chaplin. (100-49101-A) (U)

87D  
An informant of known reliability advised during 1943 that Chaplin could well be a Communist but that there would be no record of his membership except in the high circles of the Communist Party. (100-127090-13, pg. 9; source [REDACTED]) (U)

In connection with the above information, one Robert Arden, a close associate of Chaplin during 1943 and prior thereto, stated on April 24, 1943, that Chaplin was both a millionaire and a Communist. Arden stated that Chaplin would never be contacted by a local Communist but that such contacts would be made only by high officials in the Russian Government. (100-127090-13, pg. 9) (U)

The March 23, 1945, issue of the "Los Angeles Times" newspaper carried an article stating that Harry Bridges of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union of America was to be the guest of honor at a dinner on March 24, 1945, at the home of Dalton Trumbo. The "Los Angeles Daily News," in an issue of the same date, stated that Charles Chaplin had also been invited to attend this function. (39-915-2545, pg. 15) (U)

According to reliable informants, Dalton Trumbo was a member of the Communist Party in Beverly Hills, California. (U)

A reliable informant advised on June 25, 1945, that Egon Erwin Kisch, described as a Czechoslovakian National and a member of the Czechoslovakian and German Communist Parties, had been released from custody in France. According to this source of information, Chaplin had solicited the release of Kisch. (100-72924-649, pg. 28) (U)

On July 20, 1945, Gerald L. K. Smith addressed a meeting at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, California. During this speech Smith introduced one G. Allison Phelps. Phelps made a speech during which he read a letter he had written to Congressman Rankin of the House Un-American Activities Committee. In this letter Phelps stated that Charles Chaplin had a fund set aside to be used for the purpose of bringing aliens into the United States, and that Chaplin was asking for a second front when the war was going badly for the United States. Further, Phelps stated that Chaplin had sponsored the entrance of Lion Feuchtwanger, a refugee who was then in Southern California. (62-43818-783, pg. 21) (U)



~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7D  
A confidential source of known reliability advised on December 31, 1945, that John Howard Lawson, a leading Communist in the Hollywood area, spoke to Mrs. Helen Dreiser relative to arrangements for her husband's funeral. Mrs. Dreiser's husband, Theodore Dreiser, was a member of the Communist Party and had been engaged in writing in the Hollywood area. Lawson advised Mrs. Dreiser that Charles Chaplin would read a speech at the funeral. (100-127090-32, pg. 21) (U)

The January, 1946, issue of "Cross and the Flag," publication of Gerald L. K. Smith, stated that in the possession of his organization was an old letter from Chaplin which flouts his devotion to the Communist cause and contained a salute to the Red Army, closing with the words, "Russia, the future is yours." (U)

b7D  
On November 13, 1950, a source of unknown reliability reported that on June 29, 1946, Chaplin was present at a party held at the home of Clifford Odets, 7942 Hillside Avenue, Los Angeles, California, at which party Gerhardt Eisler was also present. (100-127090-73; [redacted] Calif.) (U)

b7D  
In January, 1943, a reliable source described Clifford Odets as a long-time Communist Party member. (100-127090-73; [redacted]) (U)

b7D  
In 1946 a reliable source furnished information that Gerhardt Eisler was in the United States as a Comintern agent. (100-127090-73; [redacted]) (U)

On June 27, 1946, and on July 9, 1946, Gerhardt Eisler was observed in Los Angeles, California, by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. (100-127090-73) (U)

The March 27, 1947, issue of "The Washington Post," a daily newspaper published in Washington, D. C., in a column written by Mary Spargo, reported testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee. The article stated that State Senator Jack B. Tenney of the California Legislature had named Chaplin as one of those giving aid to the Communists. (61-7582-A) (U)

The April 15, 1947, issue of "The Washington Post" newspaper carried an article concerning a press interview of Charles Chaplin at New York City on April 14, 1947. The article stated that Chaplin denied he was a Communist, but stated that he might be called a "Communist sympathizer." (100-127090-15) (U)

The June 8, 1947, issue of "The Worker," Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker," as well as the "Daily Worker" in the issue of June 4, 1947, carried articles stating that Chaplin was among a large group of notables who urged that the trials of Eugene Dennis, Leon Josephson, and Gerhardt Eisler, be postponed "in order that they may have proper time to prepare their case and in order to avoid undue prejudice against them at a time when red-baiting hysteria was so violent." (U)  
(100-15877A)

The publication, "Challenge - The Voice of Youth," dated July 5, 1947, carried an article entitled, "Proceed with the Witch Hunt." This article points out the results of a press conference held by Chaplin on the occasion of the release of his new film, "Monsieur Verdoux." One of the questions asked of Chaplin was, "Mr. Chaplin, are you a Communist sympathizer?" He answered, "I am not a Communist." The next question was, "Are you a Communist sympathizer?" The answer was, "That has to be qualified. I do not know what you mean by Communist sympathizer. During the War I sympathized with Russia because Russians were fighting and dying to bring victory to the allies. For that I have a memory and I feel that I owe her thanks. In that sense, I am a sympathizer." Chaplin was asked, "Are you a personal friend of Hanns Eisler?" His answer was, "Yes, and I am very proud of that fact." He was then asked, "Are you aware that his brother, Gerhardt Eisler, is a Communist agent?" To this he replied, "I know nothing about his brother, I know nothing about whether he is a Communist agent. I do know that Hanns Eisler is a fine artist and a great musician and I am proud to be his friend." He was then asked, "Would it make any difference if Hanns Eisler were a Communist?" His reply to this query was, "No." He was then asked, "Would it make any difference if he were a Soviet agent?" To this Chaplin replied, "If he were a spy and a traitor to this country, it probably would make a difference." (100-127090-24) (U)

During 1947, a publication entitled "Unbiased Opinions," published by Fox West Coast Theaters, contained a review of Chaplin's most recent film "Monsieur Verdoux." The review states as follows: "Dangerous and destructive are the theories advanced, that society owes one comfort, security, even luxury and that crime committed for love of family or because of need makes the perpetration an object of sympathy and forgivable, exonerating the individual and blaming society for all evils is a very wrong kind of philosophy." (100-127090-32, page 29) (U)

On October 27, 1947, Howard Rushmore, a reporter with the "New York Herald Tribune" newspaper, appeared as a witness before the House Un-American Activities Committee Washington, D. C. During his testimony, Rushmore stated that Chaplin was a "Sacred Cow" to the "Daily Worker," and that his pictures had to be publicized whether they were good or bad. (U)

(100-127090-32, pg. 27)  
During 1948, Chaplin, through his attorney in Los Angeles, California, requested a re-entry permit from Immigration and Naturalization Service. In connection with this application, Chaplin stated that he had not been affiliated with or active in organizations devoted in whole or in part to influencing or furthering the political activities, public relations, or public policy of a foreign government. (U)

Concerning the above re-entry permit application, Chaplin was interviewed by officials of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Los Angeles on April 17, 1948. During this interview, Chaplin stated under oath that he had never belonged to a political organization in his life, that he was not a Communist, nor had he made contributions to the Communist Party or Communist front organizations. (100-127090-40) (U)

A reliable informant has reported that during the Summer of 1949, Sidney Bernstein, also known as Sidney Benson, was on several occasions in contact with Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Chaplin regarding dinner engagements with the Chaplins, and regarding the use of the Chaplin swimming pool for himself and his friends. (100-127090-73; CNDI [REDACTED]) (U)

b7D  
Another reliable source reported that Sidney Benson was sent to Hollywood by the Communist Party in New York at the request of several Communist Party writers in Hollywood to act as liaison between the Cultural Group and the Section Organization, and the Section Organizer for the Hollywood Cultural Section of the Los Angeles County Communist Party. This source stated that Sidney Benson remained in Hollywood for about sixteen months and then returned to New York in the Fall of 1949. (100-127090-73; CNDI [REDACTED]) (U)

b7D  
On June 21, 1950, Louis F. Budenz, former managing editor of the "Daily Worker" until 1945, stated as follows concerning Chaplin:

"Very early in my membership in the Communist Party - perhaps in 1936 - I was advised first by Clarence Hathaway and then by Jack Stachel that

"Chaplin was 'the equivalent of a member of the Party.' The occasion for this information arose in connection with a report that Chaplin had submitted the text of his moving picture 'Modern Times' to the Moscow Board of Censorship in Russia and that he had changed certain sections of the production to conform to their criticism. As I recall, this item appeared in the 'Daily Worker' and that is how I came to discuss it in order to be able to explain it to certain comrades in the trade unions.

"The second occasion when I learned of Chaplin's adherence to the Party was in connection with a proposal that he apply for citizenship. This came about in the early 1940's and was discussed in a Politburo meeting briefly. It was stated then by Browder, as the consensus of opinion, that Chaplin should not apply for citizenship since it would raise the whole question of his being an alien, an attack on his personal life, and all sorts of things that might lead to his deportation. That advice supposedly was to be sent to William Schneiderman on the coast.

"The third occasion was in connection with both the second front meeting and the action of Joan Berry against him. On both these occasions, Dennis and Stachel emphasized Chaplin's adherence to the Party. In the latter case, the 'Daily Worker' was ordered to run an editorial defending Chaplin's private morals, that being the only occasion where any such order was given while I was with the 'Daily Worker.' Jack Stachel stated the reason for this order was that 'we had to defend the integrity of Chaplin, a Communist artist.'

"Repeatedly I have heard of his financial aid to the Communist Party and to its fronts from Robert William Weiner, Lem Harris, and also prominent members of the Politburo. This information was given me up to the time I left the Party.

"He has been a member of a number of fronts; however, the Party was very careful when they used Chaplin so that he would not be under attack."  
(100-127090-73)

b7c  
b7D  
During 1950, [redacted] former Communist Party organizer, stated that [redacted] a former Communist Party functionary in the Hollywood, California area had identified certain individuals to him as members at large in the Communist Party. These individuals were directly responsible to the Communist Party Central Committee, but were never present at Communist Party meetings. [redacted] included among this select group Charles Chaplin.

ALLEGATIONS OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY

On February 5, 1922, a reliable informant advised that he received information from a source whose reliability was unknown, that Chaplin, according to individuals connected with the New Workers Party, had always been a good contributor to the "cause." (61-30-18, page 7; unidentified source, San Francisco Office) (U)

A reliable source advised on September 6, 1922, that one A. Plotkin, a representative of the Communist Party, had made a speech at Meadow Brook Park, San Bernardino, California. In connection with Plotkin's speech, the informant was advised by another source that Charlie Chaplin and another individual reportedly financed Plotkin's activities. (57-4-99) (U)

On December 29, 1922, a reliable source advised that he had been told that the Woman's Shelly Club and the Serverance Club, which were considered "pinks" to the informant, were financed along with other Communist, Socialist, and Anarchist clubs in the Los Angeles area by the "wealthy radical class." Chaplin was reported to be among this group. (61-1499-2, page 7; unidentified source) (U)

On January 10, 1923, a reliable source advised that he had received information that a \$1,000 contribution to the Communist Party had been made just prior to Christmas in 1922. No record was made of the donation nor was the donor identified. However, according to the informant's source, Chaplin was understood to have been the contributor. (100-127090X4; unidentified source, Los Angeles Office) (U)

During 1938, John L. Leech, a former Communist Party member, testified before the Los Angeles, California, County Grand Jury. During his testimony, Leech stated that during the agricultural strike in the San Joaquin Valley in California during 1934, Ella Winter, a Communist writer, collected \$500 from Chaplin which was turned over to the Communist Party Strike Relief Committee. (100-127090-13) (U)

On December 19, 1939, a source of information who at that time was considered reliable, but has subsequently furnished unreliable information, stated that Raphael Rush of 11218 Victory Boulevard, North Hollywood, California, was an International Comrade, and had been placed in contact with individuals in the motion picture industry for the purpose of raising funds for (U)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

87D  
"A Soviet America to Come." According to this informant, Chaplin was one of those who had contributed liberally for the above purpose. (65-1674-54 and 100-127090-13, page 10; Informant, [REDACTED], discontinued, unreliable) (U)

On December 8, 1940, a source of known reliability advised that in a conversation between Winifred Eades Bates, then Executive Secretary of the United American Spanish Aid Committee in San Francisco, California, and Steve Nelson, prominent Communist functionary in San Francisco, which took place in the Headquarters of the United American Spanish Aid Committee in San Francisco, Nelson instructed Bates to represent the Communist Party in collection of funds. In this connection, Nelson instructed her to contact the motion picture colony in order to obtain money for the Communist Party. During this conversation, Nelson suggested that, along with others, Charlie Chaplin should be contacted. (100-127090-32, page 19; Fisur) (U)

The December 27, 1943, column of Hedda Hopper, Hollywood columnist, stated as follows: "From things I have learned, Charles Chaplin, who contributed \$25,000 to the Communist cause and \$100 to the Red Cross soon will find himself involved in something almost as bad as the Joan Berry case." (100-127090-13, page 10) (U)

"Passing Caravan," a New York publication, in an issue dated February 3, 1944, stated that investigation had indicated that Chaplin had contributed \$50,000 to the Communist Party. (100-267852-2) (U)

The December 10, 1948, issue of the "Los Angeles Herald Express," a daily newspaper published in Los Angeles, California, carried a photograph of Herbert Biberman holding a check for \$200 donated by Chaplin at a rally for the Very Reverend Hewlett Johnson, the "Red Dean of Canterbury." The donations reportedly were for the purpose of publicizing the Dean's views. (100-24499-451, page 46) (U)

Biberman was subpoenaed by the House Un-American Activities Committee in October, 1947, and was subsequently cited and convicted of contempt. Reliable sources have advised that he has been affiliated with numerous Communist-front organizations. (U)

During January, 1951, a reliable source of information advised that along with others Charles Chaplin contributed large sums of money to the Communist Party, and was known as a "Party Angel." (100-3-63-1066) (U)

ACTIVITY ON BEHALF OF RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF:

The September 25, 1941, issue of "The People's World," west coast Communist newspaper, reported that Charles Chaplin was one of the original sponsors of the Russian War Relief, Inc. (U)

(100-127090-13)

An advertisement in "The New York Times," issue dated October 10, 1941, regarding the Russian War Relief, Inc., stated "these eminent Americans ask your help on behalf of the Russian people." Chaplin appeared as one of the sponsors of this advertisement. (U)

(61-7566-2994)

"The People's World," dated May 18, 1944, reported that Chaplin was a leading speaker at a Russian War Relief rally, Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, California, on May 15, 1942. (U)

(100-37226-A)

It was reliably reported on May 23, 1942, that Charles Chaplin was one of the main speakers at the Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles, California, where the Russian War Relief sponsored a fund-raising drive. During his speech Chaplin urged the opening of a second front in Europe, suggested a national victory front of Republicans, Democrats and Communists and hailed President Roosevelt and Earl Browder. (U)

(100-3-25-191; Fisur)

The "News Letter," issue dated August 1, 1942, published by the California Division of the Russian War Relief, carried an article advising that the Music Committee of the Hollywood Committee of the Russian War Relief sponsored a concert on July 9, 1942. According to this article, Charles Chaplin was among those present. (U)

(100-37226-367, p. 31)

The "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, issue dated December 3, 1942, reported that a dinner in honor of Charles Chaplin had been held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City on December 3, 1942, under the auspices of the Russian War Relief. According to this article, greetings were sent to Chaplin from several prominent Russian artists and writers including Ilya Ehrenberg, Sergei Eisenstein and Dmitri Shostakovich. "The New York Times," issue dated December 4, 1942, reporting on the above event at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City quoted Charles Chaplin as stating during the course of his speech "I am not a Communist, but I feel pretty pro-Communist." According to the "Times" article, Chaplin urged the persons present to abandon all prejudice against the political and economic ideals of Russia. (U)

(100-37226-236; 100-37226-A)

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

AFFILIATIONS WITH CITED ORGANIZATIONS:

Abraham Lincoln School

In March, 1943, it was reliably reported that Charles Chaplin was being considered as a possible director of the Abraham Lincoln School, Chicago, Illinois. (100-71076-11; Highly confidential source) (U)

The Abraham Lincoln School was cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

American Continental Congress for Peace

Reliable sources have advised that Charles Chaplin, American actor, was named as one of the honorary presidents of the American Continental Congress for Peace at the September 6, 1949, session of that Congress held in Mexico City. Another reliable informant reported that a telegram from Chaplin was read at the closing session of this Congress held on September 11, 1949. In this telegram Chaplin assured the Congress that he was with them spiritually even though it was impossible for him to be present. (100-358144-55 p. 15, 50; [redacted], active, rel. paid.) (U)

The American Continental Congress for Peace was cited as "another phase in the Communist 'peace' campaign aimed at consolidating anti-American forces throughout the western hemisphere" by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities. (U)

American Russian Institute of Southern California

On April 22, 1946, it was reliably reported that Clara Walden, then active in the American Russian Institute of Southern California, had sent a telegram to Charles Chaplin inviting him to join with others in extending an invitation to Joseph Davies, former United States Ambassador to Russia, Ilya Ehrenberg and Constantine Simonov, Soviet writers, to honor Los Angeles, California, with an American Russian good will visit. (100-51620-33 p. 4; Tesur) (U)

In March, 1947, the American Russian Institute of Southern California planned an affair showing a Russian motion picture, "Stone Flower," at which the Institute considered having Charles Chaplin as the guest speaker. (100-127090-32 p. 24; [redacted] active, reliable) (U)

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

The American Russian Institute of Southern California has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

Artists Front to Win the War

According to "The New York Times," issue dated October 17, 1942, Charles Chaplin was the honorary chairman and principal speaker at a meeting held at Carnegie Hall, New York, October 16, 1942, under the auspices of the Artists Front to Win the War. According to the "Times" report, Chaplin praised President Roosevelt for releasing Earl Browder, hoped that President Roosevelt would prevent the deportation of Harry Bridges and called for an early opening of a second front in Europe. (U)

(100-15338-4 p. 6)

According to reliable informants, one of the primary aims of the Communist Party during 1942, was the establishing of a second front in Europe. Chaplin's activities in behalf of a second front included contributions toward purchasing advertisements in trade papers and delivering speeches before rallies held in New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles. (100-3-14-1170; 100-37226-367; 100-97-5A) (U)

The publication "Challenge - Voice of Youth," issue dated July 5, 1947, set forth the results of an interview by the press with Chaplin. During this interview Chaplin, in answer to questions on his war record, stated that he had made many speeches calling for a second front. He is quoted as saying "I spoke what was in my heart and in my mind and what I felt was right." (U)

The Artists Front to Win the War was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives. (U)

Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions

In June, 1949, it was reliably reported that during the latter part of October, 1946, Charles S. Chaplin, 1085 Summit Drive, Beverly Hills, California, contributed \$1,000 to the Hollywood Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. (100-127090-73; anonymous) (U)

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The Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions has been cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities. (U)

Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee

The "Daily Worker," issue dated October 19, 1942, reported that the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee would sponsor a dinner at the Hotel Astor, New York City, on October 27, 1942, as its first major public function based on Vice-President Wallace's speech "The Century of the Common Man." Charles Chaplin was listed as a sponsor. (100-7061-A) (U)

The "Hollywood Citizens News," published in Hollywood, California, issue dated September 7, 1947, reported that the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee held a rally in Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles, California, on the preceding date, and among the sponsors of the rally were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chaplin. (100-127090-32 p. 23) (U)

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

National Council of American-Soviet Friendship

The "Daily Worker," issue dated April 6, 1943, announced the formation of a National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc., to promote better understanding between the USSR and the United States which was considered essential for winning the war. This report identified Charles Chaplin as one of the national sponsors of this organization. (100-146964A) (U)

According to "The People's World," issue dated October 23, 1943, Charles Chaplin was a member of the motion picture committee of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. (100-146964-141 p. 30) (U)

The "California Jewish Voice," issue dated November 16, 1943, reported that the Los Angeles Council of the American-Soviet Friendship held a rally in Shrine Auditorium on November 15, 1943. At this rally Chaplin reportedly made a contribution of two hundred and fifty dollars. (100-146964-141 p. 2 & 6) (U)

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

It was reliably reported that Charles Chaplin, in the Spring of 1944, contributed seven hundred and fifty dollars to the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc. (100-127090-32 page 25) [redacted], rel. disc.) (U)

The "Daily Worker" for November 21, 1944, reported that Charles Chaplin, along with other movie people, had signed a telegram sending greetings to the American-Soviet Friendship rally at Madison Square Garden, New York City, on the previous Thursday. The telegram, according to this report, urged close American-Soviet friendship. (100-146964-A) (U)

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

National Labor Conference for Peace

The October 6, 1950, issue of "Counterattack," a weekly news letter published by the American Business Consultants, Inc., reported that during the previous October Charles Chaplin had sent greetings to a Chicago rally of the National Labor Conference for Peace. (100-350512-360) (U)

The National Labor Conference for Peace has been cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities. (U)

"New Masses"

It was reliably reported in January, 1945, that Charles Chaplin was to receive an award from the "New Masses" publication on January 22, 1945, at a dinner at the Hotel Commodore, New York City. Chaplin was reliably reported to have contributed \$200 to this publication in 1944. (G-2; 100-7660-2708 p. 8; Highly conf. source, 61-9182-78) (U)

"New Masses" has been cited as a "nationally circulated weekly journal of the Communist Party" by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities. (U)

People's Radio Foundation

On November 1, 1944, according to a reliable source, Joseph R. Brodsky, attorney and official of the International Workers Order conferred with Alexander Trachtenberg, Director of

Publications of the Communist Party. According to the informant they discussed plans for the formation of a corporation for a contemplated radio station. The name to be given this corporation was "People's Radio Foundation," and on the Board of Directors, according to a statement made by Brodsky, was Charles Chaplin. (61-7341-34-218; Tesur)

On December 11, 1945, the "New York World Telegram," in an article by Frederick Foltman entitled "Old Yank Staff is Over by Pro-Red," pointed out that Charles Chaplin was one of the financial backers of the People's Radio Foundation and was instrumental in having the corporation established as a means of enabling the Communist Party to get in on the ground floor of FM radio broadcasting. (100-329561-10 p. 5 & 6) (U)

The People's Radio Foundation has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

"Salute"

On December 15, 1944, information was received from an unknown source advising that the magazine "Salute" was going to be published at New York City. According to the informant, Charles Chaplin was to be the chief financial backer. (61-7562-1421) (U)

According to the California Committee on Un-American Activities, "Salute" was found to be "Communist initiated and controlled or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin solar system." (U)

Scientific and Cultural Conference for World Peace

The newspaper "Motion Picture Herald," published in Hollywood, California, issue dated April 2, 1949, in an article by George Spires, reports that Charles Chaplin was one of the sponsors of the Scientific and Cultural Conference for World Peace held in New York City in March, 1949. (100-127090-46 p. 6) (U)

The Scientific and Cultural Conference for World Peace was cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities. (U)

United American Spanish Aid Committee

It was reliably reported that Charles Chaplin attended a dinner at Ciro's Restaurant, Hollywood, California, on November 10, 1941. This dinner was held under the auspices of the American Committee to Save Refugees, Exiled Writers Committee and the United American Spanish Aid Committee. (Los Angeles; 100-7061-115 p. 5) (U)

The United American Spanish Aid Committee was cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

The American Committee to Save Refugees was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities. (U)

The Exiled Writers Committee was cited as a Communist front by the California Committee on Un-American Activities. (U)

World Peace Congress

The "Los Angeles Mirror," issue dated April 4, 1949, reported that "movie actor Charles Chaplin has joined the Communist organized World Peace Congress to be held in Paris this month sponsors revealed today." Chaplin's cable reportedly read "I am only too happy to join legion which seeks peace and good sense throughout the world." (100-127090-46) (U)

The World Peace Congress was cited by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities "as having been formed at the conclusion of the Second World Peace Conference at Warsaw and which was heralded by the Moscow radio as 'the expression of the determination of the peoples to take into their own hands the struggle for peace.'" (U)

MISCELLANEOUS:

According to a reliable source, Charles Chaplin was the principal speaker at the "All Chicago Committee to Salute our Russian Ally" on November 25, 1942, at Chicago, Illinois. This program was staged in tribute to the Soviet people on the ninth anniversary of American Soviet relations. According to the informant, Chaplin, during his speech, criticized the anti-Communist propaganda and further was quoted as saying "They asked me what I want. I want a change and don't want the old rugged individualism. Rugged for a few, ragged for many." Further according to the informant, Chaplin stated "the stigma against Russia is being dissolved like mist in the sun." (U)

64D (100-3-14-1170 p. 40; [redacted] discontinued, reliable)

On April 22, 1943, Robert Arden, then a news commentator on a west coast network of NBC and a close friend of Charles Chaplin, stated that it was his understanding that Chaplin had once assisted a Soviet Agent in leaving the United States by supplying him with funds. Arden described this individual as the "Number One Communist in Bulgaria." Chaplin, according to Arden, met the Soviet Agent in Berlin, Germany, a number of years later while travelling in Europe. The time that Chaplin is alleged to have aided the Soviet Agent and the time he is reported to have seen him in Germany has not been established. (U)

The "Daily Worker," for July 30, 1943, reported that Chaplin was one of eight hundred labor, religious and civic leaders who joined in sending a letter to Franklin D. Roosevelt on July 29, 1943, urging him to prevent racial outbreaks and lauding his stand against discrimination. (44-809-A) (U)

On January 7, 1944, Joan Berry, the victim of a White Slave Traffic Act violation of which Chaplin was the defendant, advised that Chaplin had informed her that he had been offered a position in Russia as a commissar. According to Miss Berry, Chaplin had advised her at one time that he had thought of "going back to Russia." (31-68496-172, p. 14) (U)

"The Worker," Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker," issue dated March 5, 1944, in a column by David Platt, reported that Chaplin had been a warm friend of the Soviet Union since 1917, that Chaplin was the first Hollywood star to come out for American-Soviet friendship, and that the "red-baiting" press has been hounding him for more than twenty-five years. (31-68496-A) (U)

"The People's World," issue dated April 1, 1944, reported a press conference with Mikhail Kolotozov, Soviet film representative in this country. According to this report, Kolotozov advised that Russia had a plan for a series of programs to be given in the House of Cinema Workers in Moscow and that the April, 1944, program was to deal with Charles Chaplin's films. (100-303581-2839, p. 119) (U)

According to a circular distributed by the American Russian Cultural Association, Inc., New York City, in November, 1944, Charles Chaplin was listed as a member of the Board of Honorary Advisers. The circular further reported that the American Russian Cultural Association was a nonprofit organization arranging lectures, concerts, conferences, etc., directed toward mutual understanding and closer cultural association between Soviet Russia and the United States. (100-172851-51, p.2) (U)

The "Washington Times-Herald," issue dated February 10, 1944, reported that Senator Langer, Republican of North Dakota, had introduced a bill calling on the Attorney General to investigate to determine if Chaplin should be deported. (31-68496-A) (U)

The "Los Angeles Herald Express," issue dated May 31, 1946, carried an article entitled "Russ Writer Lists Chaplin, Bette Davis as Soviet Friends." According to this article, Konstantine Simonov, Russian journalist, reported from New York that Charles Chaplin and Bette Davis and other Hollywood writers speak "in contempt of the slanderous campaign raised by the reactionary press, particularly the Hearst press, against the Soviet Union." (100-15732-389, p. 7) (U)

"The Washington Post," issue dated May 3, 1947, reported that Konrad Bercovici had sued Charles Chaplin for one million dollars and recovered ninety-five thousand dollars in a suit charging Chaplin with plagiarism and breach of contract involving the motion picture "The Great Dictator." (25-42077A) (U)

The Summer of 1947 issue of "Mainstream" favorably reviewed for its political and social significance, Chaplin's latest film "Monsieur Verdoux" in which he acted and also directed. (100-127090-22) (U)

According to the California Committee on Un-American Activities "Mainstream" was a "Marxist quarterly launched by the Communist Party in January, 1947, for the avowed purpose of

stimulating 'Marxist thinking in literature and the creative arts.' It later merged with *New Masses*, 'the weekly journalistic voice of the Communist Party.' (U)

b1 [REDACTED] (C)

The May 14, 1949, issue of the "Washington Times-Herald" reported that on May 13, 1949, Senator Harry P. Cain of Washington had submitted a statement to a Senate Judiciary subcommittee demanding that Chaplin be deported. Senator Cain stated that in 1948, during the deportation proceedings against Hanns Eisler, Vienna-born former Hollywood composer and acknowledged former Communist, Chaplin had sent a message to Pablo Picasso, described by Senator Cain as a "self-admitted French Communist," which read: "Can you head committee of French artists to protest to the American Embassy in Paris the outrageous deportation proceedings against Hanns Eisler here, and simultaneously send me a copy of protest for use here. Greetings!" Senator Cain told the subcommittee that Chaplin "has had numerous connections with Communist fronts and Communist-controlled organizations." (U)

(100-127090-A)

In December, 1949, another governmental agency of the United States furnished information that Charles Chaplin received from Moscow, Russia, through the Progressive Book Shop, 1806 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, California, three books entitled "Planned Economy in Czechoslovak," "The Czechoslovakian Public Health Service," and "The Czechoslovakian Five-Year Plan." These books were reported to be consigned to Chaplin at his studios at 1416 North La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles, California. (U)

(100-127090-72; Customs, L.A.)

b1 [REDACTED] (C)



~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

A reliable informant reported that in February, 1951, he had learned from a representative of the National Association of Mexican-Americans (ANMA) that Charles Chaplin had contributed sums of money for ANMA and other progressive organizations. In August, 1950, another reliable informant had reported that the Mexican Commission of the Los Angeles County Communist Party was practically inactive inasmuch as its work was being handled by the National Association of Mexican-Americans (ANMA).

b7D (100-127090-73, p. 6; [REDACTED])

(U)

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD  
FROM : A. H. Belmont  
SUBJECT: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

DATE: September 30, 1952

Handwritten initials and routing slip with names: Tolson, Ladd, Clegg, Glavin, Harbo, Rosen, Tracy, Belmont, Mohr, Tele. Room, Nease, Gandy.

PURPOSE:

To advise that, pursuant to the Director's instructions, officials of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) were told through Liaison on September 29, 1952, that they should consider getting in touch with the former butler and maid of Charlie Chaplin, and to furnish other data supplied by INS officials concerning the Chaplin case.

DETAILS:

Reference is made to the Director's memorandum of September 25, 1952, reflecting that comments had been made by INS in the Attorney General's staff meeting of that date on the Chaplin case. The Director said that there was some indication that Commissioner Mackey of INS was going to confer with the Bureau about this case. Accordingly the Director suggested that we contact Mr. Mackey or Colonel Habberton, Deputy Commissioner of INS, to see whether we could be of any assistance and to mention the need for their Service getting in touch with the former butler and maid of Charlie Chaplin if they are in a mood to talk, because any delay might result in Chaplin's representatives approaching these individuals to see that they do not furnish the Government any information.

Supervisor John E. Foley, the Bureau's Liaison Representative to INS, contacted Commissioner A. R. Mackey, Deputy Commissioner Benjamin Habberton, and Assistant Commissioner Raymond F. Farrell of INS on September 29, 1952, and in accordance with the Director's instructions asked whether the Bureau could be of any assistance to them and suggested the desirability of their interviewing Charlie Chaplin's former butler and maid. Thereafter, the three officials of INS expressed their deep appreciation for the Director's kind interest in the case and offer of assistance. They stated that they would keep the Bureau advised of developments in this case. Mr. Farrell stated that INS is presently reviewing its files of Chaplin for security information and expects to call upon the FBI for assistance in establishing a subversive charge against Chaplin. He said that it is anticipated that INS will ask this Bureau for the identity and availability of various witnesses who can testify as to Chaplin's subversive activities.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-4-79 BY 1259 JTF/KEA

100-127090-825-En  
OCT 29 1952

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Memo to Mr. D. M. Ladd from A. H. Belmont  
Re: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

Following the above, Mr. Mackey instructed Mr. Farrell to brief the Liaison Representative concerning INS's handling of the Chaplin case. Mr. Farrell explained that about two weeks ago, while attending a conference of District Directors of INS, Mr. Bruce Barber, head of the San Francisco Office of INS, advised Mr. Mackey that through an investigator of INS, Chaplin's butler and maid were willing "to talk." Mr. Barber was of the opinion that the butler was angry with Chaplin but he did not know the reason for the anger and suggested that INS should interview these people at once before they have a change of heart. Mr. Farrell stated that he would immediately call the Los Angeles Office of INS following his conference with the Bureau's Liaison Representative in order to instruct that office to handle these interviews immediately. In addition, he stated that he was instructing Mr. Barber to proceed from San Francisco to Los Angeles to supervise the Chaplin case.

Mr. Farrell stated bluntly that at the present time INS does not have sufficient information to exclude Chaplin from the United States if he attempts to re-enter. Mr. Mackey interposed that INS could, of course, make it difficult for Chaplin to re-enter but in the end, there is no doubt Chaplin would be admitted. Mr. Mackey pointed out that if INS attempted to delay Chaplin's re-entry into the United States, it would involve a question of detention which might well rock INS and the Department of Justice to its foundations.

Mr. Farrell advised further that while INS does not have sufficient information on which to exclude Chaplin if he attempts to re-enter before December 24, 1952, INS hopes that under the new Immigration and Nationality Act (Public Law 414, 82nd Congress), effective on and after that date, it will be able to make a case against Chaplin sufficient to exclude him. Mr. Farrell expressed the view that if Chaplin's lawyer was astute, he would have Chaplin return to the United States before the effective date of the new law. Under the new law, INS hopes to exclude Chaplin on moral grounds. As a matter of fact, INS is specifically attempting to prove that Chaplin conspired to cause one of his girl friends to abort. With a view towards establishing this charge, INS is interviewing the Chaplin butler and maid.

It is the intent of INS, that upon establishing the conspiracy charge, to afford Chaplin a hearing when he attempts to re-enter the United States. At that time, Chaplin will be

Memo to Mr. D. M. Ladd from A. H. Belmont  
Re: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

placed under oath and questioned. If he denies the charge and INS is able to establish it, he will be committing perjury and on the basis of the charge alone, he will be mandatorily excludable under the Immigration and Nationality Act. On the other hand, if he admits the charge, he will likewise be mandatorily excludable under the Immigration and Nationality Act. Mr. Mackey and Mr. Habberton were of the same opinion that any attempt now or later to exclude Chaplin for security reasons would end in a "rhubarb" comparable to that which INS ran into in the Ellen Knauf case. You will recall the Bureau furnished security information to INS which was the basis for her exclusion. This case was appealed to the United States Supreme Court and ended in the Attorney General establishing a precedent hard to overcome, and contrary to normal procedures, he granted her a re-hearing after the United States Supreme Court had upheld the original exclusion. When Ellen Knauf was granted a re-hearing, her case went to the Board of Immigration Appeals which reversed the exclusion order of INS, and while the Attorney General disagreed in part with the opinion of the Board of Immigration Appeals, he nevertheless affirmed the results. Ellen Knauf has been admitted to permanent residence in the United States.

Mr. Mackey, Mr. Habberton and Mr. Farrell were fearful that the Chaplin case would end in the same kind of "rhubarb," attendant with a great deal of unfavorable publicity if attempts were made to exclude Chaplin on security grounds alone. They expressed the hope that INS will be able to establish the aforementioned charge, which coupled with a charge that his re-entry into the United States is prejudicial to the security of the United States. Chaplin will, if he attempts to re-enter after December 24, 1952, be permanently excluded from the United States.

A copy of this memorandum is being furnished to the Internal Security Section in order that they may be apprised of the INS officials' comments and may be alerted for requests from that agency for assistance in establishing the subversive charge against Chaplin as well as the ascertaining of identity and availability of various witnesses who can identify his subversive activities.

Memo to Mr. D. M. Ladd from A. H. Belmont  
Re: CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN

RECOMMENDATION:

None. This is for your information.

We should get started  
now & get our phase  
of this case lined up.

↳ -

Bureau Classified  
Information

CLASS. BY 6383 VRT/PJC

file # 100-127090-83

DECLASS ON: OADR 5/14/83

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED  
DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)  
DATE: 5/11/83

pg. 2 para. 2

3 2+3

4 on para 3 lines 1 - part of 6<sup>th</sup>  
line and lines 10 - 12<sup>th</sup>

Office Memorandum

CONFIDENTIAL UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

A-5653092 Temp. INV:CGB  
DATE: October 1, 1952

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : Raymond F. Farrell, Assistant Commissioner  
Investigations Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service

SUBJECT: Your 100-127090; CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN, was. - SECURITY MATTER

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Laughlin	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Holloman	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

L2-1

In connection with investigation initiated by this Service with a view to determining the admissibility of CHARLES CHAPLIN, it will be appreciated if we may be advised as to the identity and availability of the source of the information set forth in a report from your Los Angeles office on December 14, 1923, to the effect that

"CHAPLIN was identified as being a member of the 'Severance Club', whose membership consisted of wealthy radicals of the "Parlor Bolseviki" type ...."

[Redacted] b7c

Advice as to the existence and content of the Los Angeles office report was furnished to the Commissioner in the fifth paragraph of the attachment to your memorandum of October 2, 1947.

Advice is also desired as to the identity and current availability of the informant, furnishing the following information which is set forth in paragraph seven of the attachment to your memorandum of October 2, 1947: 17

G.I.R. 3

"It was learned 6/19/42 that one [Redacted] said on one occasion, 'Sure, I'm a registered Communist. So is Harry Bridges. You take that guy Charlie Chaplin. He is a real guy. He is a member of the Party. Only a couple of weeks ago he gave a speech at a Communist meeting in San Francisco.'"

b7c

2. 1

Information is also requested as to further identification, whereabouts, and current affiliations of the above-mentioned [Redacted]

b7c

It will likewise be appreciated if this Service can be advised as to the identity and current availability of the informants who furnished the information set forth in the indicated paragraphs of the attachment to your memorandum of October 2, 1947: serial 24

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A-5653092  
(10/1/52)

3. k  
The 8th paragraph: "An informant advised on August 6, 1942, that never in the history of the Communist Party have the hidden intellectual membership 'thrown all caution to the wind and come out in the open for the very things the Party is demanding.' He then followed this report with a list of Communist members who were in this group of intellectuals, and included the name of Charlie Chaplin in it."



4  
The 20th paragraph: "On April 18 and 21, 1947, an informant advised that Chaplin may or may not be a member of the Communist Party. However, he is extremely cooperative and to some extent controlled by the Party. The informant added that Chaplin will always go along with the Party and has helped it financially. He felt that Chaplin had financially aided the Communist West Coast paper, 'The People's World.'"

5  
Paragraph 27: "On January 10, 1923, a confidential informant advised that a \$1000 donation was made just before Christmas in 1922 to the Communist Party, USA. However, no record was made of it and the donor's identity was withheld. The informant pointed out, however, that it was generally understood that the money came from Chaplin. In this connection, one Communist had advised the informant that Chaplin did make it but does not want it to be known."

6  
Paragraph 29: "Information was received on December 19, 1939, that Raphael Rush of 11218 Victory Boulevard, North Hollywood, California, was an International Comrade, and had been placed in contact with the movie colony for the purpose of raising funds for 'A Soviet America to come.' According to the information furnished, Chaplin was one of those who had contributed liberally."

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A-5653092  
(10/1/52)

6 + Paragraph 34: "An informant advised on an unknown date that Chaplin had contributed \$750 to the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated."

b1 7 + [REDACTED]

b1 8 + [REDACTED]

b7c b7D Advice is likewise desired as to the identity and availability of Informants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] mentioned in the report of [REDACTED] dated August 10, 1948, at Los Angeles, and Informant [REDACTED] mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated April 5, 1951, at Los Angeles. *encl 73*

b7c May we also be informed as to whether the information above-quoted from paragraph 27 of your memorandum of October 2, 1947 is conceivably a basis for the allegation attributed to Gerald L. K. Smith, which is set forth in the third paragraph of page 28 of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated August 10, 1948, as follows: *encl 72*

"On June 12, 1945, GERALD L. K. SMITH gave a speech in Los Angeles, California, in which he stated that in 1922, JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, who was then not head of the F.B.I. but just a leg man, a good investigator, uncovered a meeting place of a bunch of Communists in secret meeting. Smith added that it was a crime then to be a Communist and that the Communists had to meet in the backwoods or behind the sand dunes; that HOOVER had 17 of these Communists arrested and they found official lists, papers, and names of people buried in the ground; that the investigators dug up a barrel and exposed a list of persons who contributed to the Communist Party in 1922; that included among them was the name of CHARLIE CHAPLIN."

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A-5653092  
(10/1/52)

It will be appreciated if we can be furnished with copy of statement made by JOAN BERRY on January 7, 1944, in connection with CHAPLIN's violation of the White Slave Traffic Act, it being noted in paragraph 86 of the attachment to your memorandum of October 2, 1947 that therein Miss Berry alleges that CHAPLIN had informed her that he had been offered a position in Russia as a Commissar, and that he had told her that he had given some thought of going back to Russia.

The assistance of the Bureau is requested in locating the pertinent issue of "PRAVDA" in which there is alleged to be "an enthusiastic tribute to CHAPLIN as a Communist and friend of humanity in connection with the first production of a CHAPLIN film in Russia." It is noted in the fourth paragraph of the attachment to your memorandum of October 2, 1947 that this issue of "PRAVDA" is alleged to have given "a great boost to 'Comrade Charlie' as one of those whose heart was on the right side, and, according to the latest reports from America, had joined the Communist Party." (Underscoring supplied).

b1  
[REDACTED] also, whether there is information which would confirm CHAPLIN's financial and/or cultural contributions to the Communist movement. In addition, it will be appreciated if information can be secured as to whether CHAPLIN's correct name is ISRAEL THORNSTEIN as has been alleged, [REDACTED]  
b1  
[REDACTED]

R.F. Farrell

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